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CRISP'S STRUGGLES.

He Will Announce Committees on Wednesday.

Heartburnings and Jealousies Engendered by Competition.

Mills and the Speaker—Other Matters at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—While the session of the House was very brief, it afforded material for a good deal of talk, and its importance overshadowed the proceedings at the other end of the Capitol, although nominations to high positions were sent in.

The composition of the first great committee was made public today, when the speaker announced that the committee on rules would consist of the speaker, McMillin of Tennessee, Mr. Catchings of Mississippi, Mr. Reed of Maine and Mr. Burrows of Michigan.

The importance of this committee can be understood when it is explained that it not only frames the rules and regulations under which the House transacts its business, but it is to that body what the rudder and the engines are to a ship. It not only guides legislation, but it also sends it ahead, keeps it stationary or lets it lag behind, as it may seem proper; it is the committee on rules which decides the time to be allotted to the consideration of a particular bill and the way in which certain measures shall be brought up.

It is true that the committee can only make recommendations and that it remains with the House to act on the recommendations of the committee, but it is so rare that the majority refuse to act on the report of the majority members of the committee that for all practical purposes the dictum of the rules committee is law.

The chairman of the committee is always the speaker, and in the Mr. Carlisle was speaker the members of his own party on the committee were the chairmen of the committees on ways and means and appropriations.

Mr. Reed, as speaker, followed the same policy. Prior to Mr. Carlisle's time, however, the majority members were not necessarily the same two chairmen.

Crisp, by his action today, has refused to be bound by the Carlisle-Reed procedure, and has returned to the old order of things.

The appointment of Messrs. McMillin and Catchings does not mean that these gentlemen will respectively head the leading committees of the House, although, when the committee was first announced, that impression was quietly formed.

But Speaker Crisp said to THE GLOBE representative, after the adjournment of the House, that there was no significance to be attached to the fact of McMillin and Catchings going on the committee, except that they were selected for their peculiar qualifications for the work required of them; that was the only reason which governed him.

The peculiar qualifications to which Mr. Crisp referred in the case of Mr. McMillin consist in the fact that he is one of the best parliamentarians on the Democratic side of the House, a fluent, vigorous and ever ready debater, and always ready to take the floor when a parliamentary question is to be discussed or a precedent cited. He shares honors with Springer in this respect.

Catchings was appointed because he was Judge Crisp's chief campaign manager in the speakership fight, and during that time showed in a marked degree that he was the possessor of unusual executive abilities, and as an organizer there are few men his superior. Catchings is a small man with a long reddish-brown beard. He is gentle in voice, methods and actions.

While the speakership fight was at its highest, he was quiet and as serene as a chunk of ice on a cold day. He was never once flurried and no matter how bad the reports which were brought to him, his imperturbable manner never forsook him for a moment.

His organizing powers were shown in the way in which he was able to hold his forces in line. Personally, he is very popular, and just the right man to smooth over difficulties when they arise and make it plain sailing for the committee, even though the committee in arranging the business of the session should have to step on some member's pet corn.

COURTEOUS PHRASES.

Text of the Correspondence Between Crisp and Mills.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The following is the text of the correspondence between Speaker Crisp and Representative Mills in regard to the latter's committee service:

SPEAKER'S ROOM,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1891.

Hon. R. Q. Mills, City:

MY DEAR SIR—Having been too much engaged to call on you, and now being about to enter on the work of constituting the House committees, I drop you a line to know if it would be agreeable or acceptable to you to be appointed second on the committee on ways and means, and in addition to such assignment to be appointed chairman of the committee on commerce, or chairman of the committees on post offices and post roads, or chairman of some committee whose work is less laborious than commerce or post offices.

Would be glad to have a reply at your earliest convenience, as I desire to make up and announce the committees in a few days.

With great respect, I am, sincerely yours,
CHARLES F. CRISP.

Mr. Mills' reply follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19, 1891.

Hon. Charles F. Crisp, Speaker House of Representatives:

MY DEAR SIR—I have received your letter of the 18th inst., asking me "if it would be agreeable or acceptable to me to be appointed second on the committee on ways and means, and in addition to such assignment to be appointed chairman of the committee on commerce or chairman of the committee on post offices and post roads, or chairman of some committee whose work is less laborious than commerce or post offices."

Having been a member of the committee on ways and means for 10 years and chairman in the 50th Congress, the reasons which have in your judgment rendered my appointment as chairman unwise, would disqualify me for service in any other place on that committee, and it would not be sincere to say that it would be agreeable to accept your tender.

I leave to you, without any suggestion from me, to make such other assignment as you, in the discharge of your official duty, may determine. Yours truly,
R. Q. MILLS.

NO ALIENS NEED APPLY.

Bill for Dismissal of Foreigners from Government Service.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—Senator Gallinger says regarding of his bill for the dismissal of all aliens in government employ, that there has been an unwritten law in some of the departments for many years forbidding the employment of aliens.

A number of men who have received appointments to positions in the Treasury Department, and who have come to Washington to take them, have been obliged to return to their homes, as they learned that they were not citizens of the United States.

A recent case was that of a man appointed to the position of skilled labor in the Treasury Department. He had given up a good position to come to Washington from Pennsylvania, but under Secretary Foster's rule the department was obliged to refuse to appoint him, although he had taken out his first papers.

BETTER SERVICE PROMISED.

Weather Predictions After Incoming of New Year to be Improved.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—An improvement of general public interest is being introduced into the weather bureau. The predictions heretofore made were based on the observations at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m., and were made of the 24 hours from the time the observations were taken.

These predictions were necessarily a little belated, as it was several hours before they could be placed before the public, those published in the morning having already nearly half expired, and for the evening papers the case was still worse, as the portion of the time covered had already elapsed for which the predictions were of most value.

The proposed improvement consists in having the predictions in each case cover the time until midnight of the next day. When this takes effect, which will be on the 1st of January next, the predictions printed in the morning papers will appear early in the day to which they apply, while those in the evening papers will be for the day after. The public will be informed on the evening before of the expected weather and will be given an improved forecast the next morning.

Speaker Crisp's New Gavel.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The gavel presented by the citizens of Americus, Ga., his home, to Speaker Crisp, ornamented the mantel in the speaker's room this morning. It is about 10 inches long, made of oak, highly polished, with gold bands around the head and a silver band on the handle. On the bands are engraved the words: "Presented to Hon. Charles F. Crisp, Speaker of the House of Representatives, by his constituents of Americus, Ga."

COSTS HIM HALF A MILLION.

Ex-President John Hoey of the Adams Express Company Put on Record by Henry Sanford.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 20.—Henry Sanford has at last been interviewed.

He would not say much, but gives out the following for publication:

"John Hoey has made restitution to the Adams Express Company to the amount of $500,000.

"This includes the residence on 22d st., New York, and the Hollywood property in New Jersey, which is in Mrs. Hoey's name. There are heavy mortgages on the Hollywood property, but after they are lifted the entire transfer will net the Adams Express Company about $500,000.

"This is not all Hoey owes the company, but it is all we could get out of him.

"As for Mr. Spooner, I expect to hear either from him or his attorney in a few days."

GRESHAM DISGUSTED.

Astonished at President's Choice of Circuit Judge—Wood's Confirmation Would be Taken as a Personal Insult.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—The Times this morning prints the following:

Lawyers and judges in this city were quietly conferring yesterday over the nomination of Judge Woods of Indiana as judge of the United States Circuit Court.

A number called on Judge Gresham of the Circuit bench to learn his views, but he was very reticent. That he was astonished and disgusted was apparent to every caller.

He could scarcely realize that such a nomination had been made, and to some of his intimate friends he is said to have expressed himself as much displeased with the President's choice.

One admirer of Judge Gresham, a man whose voice was heard in the national Republican convention in Chicago in 1888, said, "I have reason to believe that Judge Gresham will never serve on the circuit bench with Judge Woods. He will resign first."

"Should the Indiana man be confirmed, Judge Gresham will take it as a personal insult from the President and the Republican party, and if Harrison is nominated he will quit the bench, and perhaps before that event becomes possible."

CAUGHT IN A BLIZZARD.

Maine Hunter Obliged to Spend the Night on an Ash Heap—One Blanket and Three Inches of Snow His Only Protection.

BANGOR, Me., Dec. 15.—Landlord Henry E. Capen of the Bay View House, Camden, famous for having given the Shutter-Loon banquet at his hostelry this year, has just returned from a hunting trip above the Katahdin iron works, but it was only the fact that he is a thoroughly experienced woodsman that brought him home alive.

Early Friday morning with a guide he left camp, saying that he would return for dinner; but about 8 o'clock they struck the fresh tracks of four caribou which they thought they might overtake in an hour.

They followed them all day over hills and valleys and through ravines which would ordinarily be deemed impassable.

Late in the afternoon the trail took them up the side of a mountain, and when nearly at the summit and knowing that the caribou were but a short distance away darkness came upon them, and it began snowing.

In a short time the worst gale of the winter thus far was upon them. The guide had a thin blanket in his pack, but Mr. Capen was without one.

The place where they had been caught was not heavily wooded, but they collected a lot of brush and such other material as it afforded and in a hole sheltered from the full force of the hurricane built a fire, which they kept blazing briskly for some hours until a large quantity of ashes had accumulated.

They then collected fresh brush, and scooping all the blazing coals from the fire covered the hot ashes with the brush, sat down upon it and threw the blanket over them like a tent.

In the hollow they were protected from the wind, which blew at such a rate over the mountain that no one could possibly live in it.

The ashes held the heat very well, but the nearly exhausted men did not dare to sleep, and the frightful howling of the tempest was enough to keep them awake.

The night seemed a month long, but when daylight finally came and they crept from beneath the blanket they found it covered with three or four inches of snow, which had aided in no small degree in protecting them.

As soon as it was fairly light they took their bearings from the compass and set out for camp, travelling no less than 30 miles before reaching it, and arriving about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

JAN. 21, THE DATE.

National Democratic Committee Then to Meet at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Mr. William Dickson, resident member from the District of Columbia, of the national Democratic committee, has appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting of the national Democratic committee here on Thursday, Jan. 21.

RESTITUTION MADE.

San Francisco Smugglers Pay Uncle Sam $70,000 in Duties.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Seventy thousand dollars has been paid to the Treasury Department by the firm of Neuberger, Heiss & Co., members of which were indicted for smuggling. The money is supposed to be in satisfaction of the claims of the government against them.

The matter dates from September, when a case consigned to the firm fell from a dray and burst open, revealing smuggled goods.

The entire consignment was seized, as were several subsequent consignments, and nearly all proved to be falsely invoiced.

Most of the invoices received by the firm during the year were inspected by S. M. Cashin, the deputy collector, who has been dismissed for alleged complicity in the smuggling.

"Take My Money or Die."

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 18.—There came near being a re-enactment of the bloody court house riot of 1884 here this morning.

A great mob of taxpayers and others crushed into the county treasurer's office to pay their taxes and avoid the penalty. The bills were delayed until yesterday, and it was impossible to take in all the money presented.

One man put a revolver under the nose of the receiving clerk and said he would shoot if the money was not accepted and receipted for at once.

The great crowd on the outside grew riotous and hurled stones through the windows.

One man was knocked insensible and two women were crushed almost to death.

A riot alarm was sounded and a large body of police arrived, and by vigorous action cleared the streets and drove off the more belligerent rioters. There is great excitement over the affair.

INDUSTRIOUS SENATORS

Introduced Enough Bills and Resolutions for Months.

Long List of Subjects Provided for Debate After the Holidays.

The House Waits for the Speaker and the Recess.

Monday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Among the departmental and other communications laid before the Senate by the vice-president and referred were the following:

Report of the government directors of the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Awards of the Court of Claims on French spoliation claims. Among the bills introduced and referred were the following:

By Mr. Squires—For a monument to Gen. U. S. Grant in the city of Washington.

By Mr. Felton—To amend the steamship subsidy act. To execute certain treaty stipulations as to Chinese immigration.

By Mr. Cameron—Several bills to adjust pensions of those who have lost eyes or limbs, or the use of them.

By Mr. Gallinger—For the better protection of the public service.

By Mr. Peffer—To increase the number of chaplains in the army. To regulate the rate of pensions. For the re-taking of a special supplementary census.

For the biennial publication of a military register of the United States.

By Mr. Harris—To repeal all laws discriminating against the circulation of State banks.

By Mr. Coke—To amend the laws in relation to national banks and to retire their circulation.

By Mr. Washburn—Defining options in "futures" and imposing taxes thereon.

By Mr. Hale—To establish a permanent census office and to provide for taking the 12th and subsequent censuses.

By Mr. Mitchell—To prohibit absolutely the coming of Chinese into the United States, whether they are Chinese subjects or otherwise.

By Mr. Frye—To establish a marine board for the advancement of the interest of the merchant marine; to amend the laws as to the regulation of steam vessels; admitting to American registry vessels built in the United States and owned by American citizens residing abroad; for a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic; to amend the act as to the life-saving service; to amend the Pacific railroad acts; to extend the time for filing French spoliation claims.

By Mr. Carlisle—To reimburse the several States for interest paid on moneys expended in raising troops.

By Mr. Manderson—For a survey of the interior of Alaska.

By Mr. Sherman—For a uniform classification of wheat, oats, rye, etc.

By Mr. Chandler—To regulate and improve the civil service of the United States; to allow the pay of the rear admiral to commodores while acting as rear admiral.

By Mr. Mitchell—Pensioning soldiers who served in Indian wars.

By Senator Cameron, bill providing that all persons on the pension rolls and all hereafter granted pensions who have lost the sight of both or one eye, or both hands or feet, so as to be totally disabled, or of one hand or foot, so that they may be nearly helpless and require the attendance of others, shall be granted a pension of $100 a month. Those who have lost an arm at the shoulder, or a leg at the hip, are to receive $60 a month; those who have lost an arm at the elbow, or a leg at the knee, $55 a month, and all who have incurred or contracted other disabilities are to receive a sum per month equal to the total of the rates for all the other disabilities.

Mr. Dolph offered a resolution calling on the War Department for report as to whether the provisions of the last river and harbor bill to prevent the unlawful obstruction of the navigable waters of the United States have been enforced, and if not why not. Agreed to.

Mr. Aldrich moved the amendment to the rule (of which he gave notice last week), regulating admission to the floor of the Senate. The amendment was adopted.

The principal change is as to clerks to committees and clerks to senators. They are admitted when "in the actual discharge of their official duties," and it is provided that clerks to senators "must be regularly appointed and be borne on the rolls of the secretary of the senate as such."

The Senate then went into executive session, when some nominations were referred to committees, and then, at 1.20, the Senate adjourned until tomorrow.

Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The vice-president, in the Senate today, announced the appointment of Mr. Morrill as regent of the Smithsonian Institution, to fill a vacancy.

Among the bills introduced and referred were the following:

By Mr. Morrill—For the purchase of a site for a building for the Supreme Court of the United States; for the endowment of Howard University under the act of Aug. 30, 1890; for a bronze statue of the late Prof. Baird of the Smithsonian institution; for a bronze statue of Christopher Columbus in Washington, and the removal of the naval monument to a new site; extending the privileges of the mail free from postage to historical societies.

By Mr. Sherman—To promote and encourage the display of the flags of the United States. For the readjustment of grades of officers of the subsistence department of the army. For a military post in the interior of Alaska and for the exploration and survey of the valley of the Yukon river.

By Mr. Dolph—For fortifications and other sea coast defences.

By Mr. Proctor—To reorganize the infantry of the army and increase its efficiency; to repeal the law for the examination of certain officers of the army; to regulate promotion therein; and to extend lineal promotion to first lieutenants.

By Mr. Hansbrough—To fix the pay and allowances of veterans of the army.

By Mr. Quay—To mark the lines of battle and positions of the army of northern Virginia at Gettysburg. To furnish the Gettysburg Memorial Association with specimens of the arms, etc., used at the battle of Gettysburg. To amend section 22 of the interstate commerce act.

By Mr. Mitchell—For the development of silk culture in the United States.

By Mr. Plumb—For the establishment of an insurance bureau for the protection of the public interests in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Morrill introduced a joint resolution, which was passed, to fill the vacancies in the board of regents of the Smithsonian Institution in the class other than members of Congress. It appoints William Preston Johnson of Louisiana in place of Noah Porter of Connecticut, resigned, and renews the terms of Henry Coppee of Pennsylvania and M. C. Meigs of Washington, D. C.

Mr. Manderson offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling for copies of correspondence in the case of Nicolino Miles, a naturalized citizen of the United States (brought here by his father when only 10 years of age), who has been imprisoned in Italy and compelled to perform military service.

Mr. Quay offered a resolution, which was referred to the committee on foreign relations, instructing that committee to inquire whether the acquisition of those portions of the Mexican States of Sonora, Chihuahua and Coahuila that lie north of the 29th parallel is practicable and for the interest of the United States.

Senator Cullom today introduced a bill providing for the adoption and use of a uniform standard car coupler, and regulating the operation and control of freight trains used in interstate commerce, and providing for the greater safety of railroad employes. The bill provides that all common carriers engaged in interstate the coupling of cars and who are members of established organizations of railway employes may, within six months after the passage of this act, vote upon the choice of an automatic car coupler.

Such coupler may be of the vertical type, but must be so devised as to couple by impact and to dispense with any person going between the cars to couple or uncouple. Every common carrier is to be entitled to one vote for every freight car owned, leased or controlled, and the employes entitled in the aggregate to one-third as many votes as may be cast by all the common carriers, the interstate commerce commission to have the power to decide upon the validity of the votes cast. If not less than 600,000 votes have been cast and the entire vote for any particular coupler is not less than 500,000, the commission shall certify these facts to the President, who shall issue a proclamation declaring the coupler chosen to be the standard safety car coupler for use in interstate commerce. And in case no choice is made the President shall appoint a commission of five competent persons to determine the coupler best to be used.

The bill further provides that all carriers are to equip at least 10 per cent. each year of the number of freight cars used, and also to equip every engine with the power brake known as the "driving wheel brake."

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—In the Senate today, the president pro tem. laid before the Senate the credentials of Senator-elect Hill of New York, and they were read and placed on file.

Mr. Turpie then addressed the Senate in support of the joint resolution, which was introduced by him Dec. 10, proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people of the several States.

At the close of Mr. Turpie's speech the joint resolution was referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

Mr. Mitchell offered the following resolution, which was referred to the committee on foreign relations:

Resolved, That the committee on foreign relations be and is hereby instructed to inquire into the advisability of appropriate action looking to the invitation of the governments of the world to a conference to be held in connection with the World's Columbian exposition at Chicago, for the purpose of discussing and recommending measures by which the principles of arbitration may be incorporated in treaties, conflicting international laws harmonized and an international court established having jurisdiction in cases which governments shall fail to settle by negotiation, and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Mitchell also introduced a bill providing for the construction of two first-class revenue cutters for service on the Pacific coast.

Mr. Stewart then proceeded to address the Senate on that part of the President's message relating to free coinage. He said that the President was laboring under a misapprehension when he stated that the act of 1890 would raise silver to par and keep it there. That act, he observed, was opposed by the Democrats, who had voted solidly against it.

The anti-silver Republicans, with the votes of the free-coinage Republicans, had passed the act as a compromise measure. The act provided for the redemption of treasury notes in gold and silver coin, and it was the duty of the secretary of the treasury to coin enough silver to provide for such redemption.

"There was no warrant of law, he said, for the sale of bonds to buy gold for the purpose of redeeming treasury notes issued under the act of 1890. The redemption act of 1875 had authorized the sale of bonds for the redemption of greenbacks outstanding on the 1st of January, 1879, and for no other purpose, and there was no reason to suppose that sufficient gold would come into the treasury for the redemption of the notes issued under the act of 1890. Consequently they had to be redeemed in silver.

He contended that the act of 1890 amounted to a pledge that the government would maintain free coinage. It has expressly declared in that act that it was the established policy of the United States to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other upon the present legal ratio.

The act referred to the parity between the two metals, not the parity between the coined dollars on a par with gold dollars and by a promise of redemption in gold. So long as silver was a commodity and was denied any of the rights and privileges which applied to gold, it would be deprecated in the market. There was but one way to maintain the parity between the two metals, which was free and unlimited coinage of both.

The silver in the silver dollar and the gold in the gold dollar would never be equal in value until each could be exchanged at the mint for a dollar. He argued that free coinage was necessary to enlarge the basis of circulation and credit. In 1873 there were $7,500,000,000 of gold and silver coin in the world, all of which was money of ultimate redemption suitable for banks and public institutions. The rejection of silver had reduced the amount of real money about one-half. There had been no material increase in the gold coin of the world since silver was demonetized. The gold coin of the world did not exceed $3,750,000,000.

He urged that there was no possibility of a flood of silver under free coinage; that no silver would return from Asia, and that Europe had no silver to spare.

France, he said, had more than half of the legal tender silver of Europe, which she did not desire to dispose of.

New Business on Thursday.

Among the bills introduced and referred were the following:

Mr. Gallinger—Increasing the rate of pension granted for wounds received or disabilities incurred in the navy during the late war to $50 a month when the men served on board vessels whose officers received the thanks of the secretary of the navy for gallantry and endurance.

Also a bill making it lawful for the governors of the several States and Territories to send free through the mails to the several official departments of each State or territorial government being at the capital of each State and Territory, and to each State and Territorial library and each library of the court of last result of each such State or Territory, so located, such public books, maps, printed pamphlets, reports of cases decided in the courts of last resort, reports and books and pamphlets of the several public departments of the State or Territorial libraries, as shall be printed by the authority of each State or Territory for the public use thereof. Provision is also made for an interchange of articles similar to those named above between foreign governments and the States and Territories of the United States.

By Mr. Teller—Appropriating $15,000 to introduce and maintain domestic reindeer in Alaska.

By Mr. Hawley—Raising Com. William K. Major to the rank and pay of rear-admiral on the retired list.

Mr. Paddock from the committee on contingent expenses, reported back the resolution offered last week for the increase of the Senate force of messengers, which, he said, was necessary, on account of the purchase of the Maltby House. On objection by Mr. Platt, the resolution went over without action.

Mr. Morrill gave notice that he would, on Saturday next, or at the earliest opportunity, address the Senate on the question discussed by Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Plumb introduced a bill to remove the limitation on arrears of pensions.

The Senate proceeded to executive business, and at 3.10 adjourned till Monday.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

New England Men Selected for Many Important Places.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Mr. Manderson presided over the Senate today as president pro tem.

On motion of Mr. Cullom, rule 24 (for the appointment of committees by ballot) was suspended, and a resolution was offered by him for the appointment of the standing and select committees.

The resolution was read and agreed to. They were as follows:

Standing Committees.

Agriculture—Mr. Paddock, chairman; Messrs. McMillan, Casey, Warren, Felton, George, Gibson of Louisiana, Jones of Arkansas, and Bates.

Appropriations—Mr. Allison, chairman; Messrs. Dawes, Plumb, Hale, Cullom, Stewart, Cockrell, Call, Gorman and Blackburn.

Contingent expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Jones of Nevada, chairman; Paddock and Ransom.

Census—Messrs. Hale, chairman; Stockbridge, Dixon, Hansbrough, Puffer, Berry, Blackburn and Turpie.

Civil service and retrenchment—Messrs. Wolcott, chairman; Dawes, Stanford, Washburn, Morrill, Walthall, Call, Gordon and Irby.

Claims—Messrs. Mitchell, chairman; Allen, Stewart, Sanders, Peffer, Pasco, Faulkner, Vilas and White.

Coast defences—Messrs. Dolph, chairman; Hawley, Squire, Higgins, Felton, Berry, Gordon, Chilton and Irby.

Commerce—Messrs. Frye, chairman; Jones of Nevada, Dolph, Sawyer, Cullom, Washburn, Quay, Ransom, Coke, Vest, Gorman, Kenna, Gibson of Louisiana.

District of Columbia—Messrs. McMillan, chairman; Higgins, Plumb, Wolcott, Gallinger, Hansbrough, Harris, Ransom, Faulkner, Barbour, Gibson of Maryland.

Engrossed bills—Messrs. Cockrell, chairman; Allison and Warren.

Education and labor—Messrs. Carey, chairman; Stanford, Washburn, McMillan, Hansbrough, George Pugh, Barbour, Kyle.

Enrolled bills—Messrs. Sanders, chairman; Dubois and Colquitt.

Epidemic diseases—Messrs. Harris, chairman; Berry, White, Irby, Stockbridge, Gallinger and Felton.

Examine the several branches of the civil service—Messrs. Power (chairman), Gallinger, Peffer, Gray and Vilas.

Finance—Messrs. Morrill (chairman), Sherman, Jones of Nevada, Allison, Aldrich, Hiscock, Voorhees, McPherson, Harris, Ransom and Carlisle.

Fisheries—Messrs. Stockbridge, chairman; Dawes, Stanford, Squire, Power, Blodgett, Call, Ransom and Gibson of Maryland.

Foreign relations—Messrs. Sherman, chairman; Frye, Dolph, Davis, Hiscock, Morgan, Butler, Kenna and Gray.

Immigration—Messrs. Chandler, chairman; Hale Squire, Proctor, Dubois, Voorhees, McPherson, Daniel and Cockrell.

Improvement of Mississippi river and its tributaries—Messrs. Washburn, chairman; Pettigrew, Power, Peffer, Walthall, Bate and Palmer.

Indian affairs—Messrs. Dawes, chairman; Platt, Stockbridge, Manderson, Pettigrew, Shoup, Morgan, Jones of Arkansas, Daniel and Vilas.

Interstate commerce—Messrs. Cullom, chairman; Wilson, Hiscock, Chandler, Wolcott, Higgins, Harris, Gorman, Jones of Arkansas, Barbour and Colquitt.

Irrigation and reclamation of arid lands—Messrs. Warren, chairman; Stewart, Casey, Sanders, Dubois, Jones of Arkansas, Brice, Kyle and Gibson of Maryland.

Judiciary—Messrs. Hoar, chairman; Wilson, Teller, Platt, Mitchell, Pugh, Coke, Vest and George.

Library—Messrs. Quay, chairman; Wolcott and Voorhees.

Manufactures—Messrs. Higgins, chairman; Dubois, Gallinger, Blodgett and Gibson of Maryland.

Military affairs—Messrs. Hawley, chairman; Cameron, Manderson, Davis, Proctor, Cockrell, Walthall, Bate and Palmer.

Mines and mining—Messrs. Stewart, chairman; Jones of Nevada, Power, Warren, Felton, Bate, Call, Chilton and Irby.

Naval affairs—Messrs. Cameron, chairman; Hale, Stanford, Stockbridge, Chandler, McPherson, Blackburn, Butler and Gibson of Louisiana.

Organization, conduct and expenditures of the executive departments—Messrs. Hiscock, chairman; Casey, Wilson, Proctor, Dubois, Cockrell, Kenna, Gorman and Blackburn.

Patents—Messrs. Dixon (chairman), Platt, Sanders, Carey, Gray, Chilton and Kyle.

Pensions—Messrs. Davis (chairman), Sawyer, Paddock, Shoup, Hansbrough, Gallinger, Turpie, Blodgett, Palmer, Vilas and Brice.

Post offices and post roads—Messrs. Sawyer, chairman; Mitchell, McMillan, Wolcott, Dixon, Washburn, Colquitt, Blodgett, Brice, Irby and Chilton.

Printing—Messrs. Manderson, chairman; Hawley and Gorman.

Private land claims—Messrs. Ransom, chairman; Colquitt, Pasco, Teller, Sanders, Hale and Proctor.

Privileges and elections—Messrs. Teller, chairman; Hoar, Mitchell, Chandler, Higgins, Ransom, Pugh, Gray and Turpie.

Public buildings and grounds—Messrs. Stanford, chairman; Morrill, Quay, Squire, Carey, Vest, Daniel, Pasco and Brice.

Public lands—Messrs. Plumb, chairman; Dolph, Paddock, Allen, Pettigrew, Sanders, Morgan, Walthall, Berry, Pasco and White.

Railroads—Messrs. Casey, chairman; Hawley, Stockbridge, Pettigrew, Power, Peffer, Blackburn, Berry, Bate, Gordon and Palmer.

Revision of the laws of the United States—Messrs. Wilson, chairman; Platt, Proctor, Daniel and Call.

Revolutionary claims—Messrs. Coke, chairman; Pugh, Brice, Cameron and Sawyer.

Rules—Messrs. Aldrich, chairman; Sherman, Manderson, Harris and Blackburn.

Territories—Messrs. Platt, chairman; Stewart, Davis, Carey, Shoup, Hansbrough, Jones of Arkansas, Carlisle, Faulkner, Gordon and McPherson.

Transportation routes to the seaboard—Messrs. Squire, chairman; Mitchell, Aldrich, Casey, Gallinger, Gibson of Louisiana, George, Turpie and Gordon.

Select Committees.

To investigate the condition of the Potomac river front of Washington—Messrs. McPherson, chairman; Ransom, Barbour, Sawyer, Sherman and Frye.

Nicaraguan claims—Messrs. Morgan, chairman; Palmer, White, Stewart and Mitchell.

Woman Suffrage.—Messrs. Ransom, chairman; Carlisle, George, Hoar, Allen, Quay and Warren.

Additional Accommodations for the Library of Congress.—Messrs. Voorhees, chairman; Butler, Morrill, Dixon and Paddock.

On President's message transmitting report of Pacific railroad commission—Messrs. Frye, chairman; Dawes, Hiscock, Davis, Carey, Morgan, Turpie, Faulkner and White.

The five civilized tribes of Indians—Mr. Butler, chairman; Messrs. Pasco, Dawes, Cameron and Teller.

On transportation of meat products—Mr. Vest, chairman; Messrs. Coke, Plumb, Power and Casey.

On relations with Canada—Messrs. Allan, chairman; Hoar, Allison, Hale, Dolph, Pugh, Voorhees, Gorman and Carlisle.

To establish the University of the United States—Messrs. Proctor, chairman; Sherman, Dolph, Washburn, Squire, Butler, Gibson of Louisiana, Barbour and Kyle.

Indian depredations—Messrs. Shoup, chairman; Paddock, Chandler, Allen, Power, Faulkner, Coke, Carlisle and Kyle.

Quadro-centennial—Messrs. Pettigrew, chairman; Hiscock, Sherman, Cameron, Hawley, Wilson, Felton, Cullom, Colquitt, Vest, Kenna, Gray, Daniel, Vilas and Gibson of Maryland.

Foreign relations—Messrs. Sherman, chairman; Frye, Dolph, Davis, Hiscock, Morgan, Butler, Kenna and Gray.

Immigration—Messrs. Chandler, chairman; Hale Squire, Proctor, Dubois, Voorhees, McPherson, Daniel and Cockrell.

Improvement of Mississippi river and its tributaries—Messrs. Washburn, chairman; Pettigrew, Power, Peffer, Walthall, Bate and Palmer.

Indian affairs—Messrs. Dawes, chairman; Platt, Stockbridge, Manderson, Pettigrew, Shoup, Morgan, Jones of Arkansas, Daniel and Vilas.

Interstate commerce—Messrs. Cullom, chairman; Wilson, Hiscock, Chandler, Wolcott, Higgins, Harris, Gorman, Jones of Arkansas, Barbour and Colquitt.

Irrigation and reclamation of arid lands—Messrs. Warren, chairman; Stewart, Casey, Sanders, Dubois, Jones of Arkansas, Brice, Kyle and Gibson of Maryland.

Judiciary—Messrs. Hoar, chairman; Wilson, Teller, Platt, Mitchell, Pugh, Coke, Vest and George.

Library—Messrs. Quay, chairman; Wolcott and Voorhees.

Manufactures—Messrs. Higgins, chairman; Dubois, Gallinger, Blodgett and Gibson of Maryland.

Military affairs—Messrs. Hawley, chairman; Cameron, Manderson, Davis, Proctor, Cockrell, Walthall, Bate and Palmer.

Mines and mining—Messrs. Stewart, chairman; Jones of Nevada, Power, Warren, Felton, Bate, Call, Chilton and Irby.

Naval affairs—Messrs. Cameron, chairman; Hale, Stanford, Stockbridge, Chandler, McPherson, Blackburn, Butler and Gibson of Louisiana.

Organization, conduct and expenditures of the executive departments—Messrs. Hiscock, chairman; Casey, Wilson, Proctor, Dubois, Cockrell, Kenna, Gorman and Blackburn.

Patents—Messrs. Dixon (chairman), Platt, Sanders, Carey, Gray, Chilton and Kyle.

Pensions—Messrs. Davis (chairman), Sawyer, Paddock, Shoup, Hansbrough, Gallinger, Turpie, Blodgett, Palmer, Vilas and Brice.

Post offices and post roads—Messrs. Sawyer, chairman; Mitchell, McMillan, Wolcott, Dixon, Washburn, Colquitt, Blodgett, Brice, Irby and Chilton.

Printing—Messrs. Manderson, chairman; Hawley and Gorman.

Private land claims—Messrs. Ransom, chairman; Colquitt, Pasco, Teller, Sanders, Hale and Proctor.

Privileges and elections—Messrs. Teller, chairman; Hoar, Mitchell, Chandler, Higgins, Ransom, Pugh, Gray and Turpie.

Public buildings and grounds—Messrs. Stanford, chairman; Morrill, Quay, Squire, Carey, Vest, Daniel, Pasco and Brice.

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Foreign relations—Messrs. Sherman, chairman; Frye, Dolph, Davis, Hiscock, Morgan, Butler, Kenna and Gray.

Immigration—Messrs. Chandler, chairman; Hale

SENATE COMMITTEES.

Majority Membership as Approved in Caucus.

Senator Hoar Put at the Head of That on Judiciary.

Many Changes Made Necessary by Reason of New Members.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Republican caucus committee has concluded its work of arranging the majority membership of the Senate, and the report was adopted at a new caucus this morning.

Among the changes that are made by the Republicans are the following: Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, chairman of the judiciary committee, vice Edmunds; Senator Teller, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, vice Hoar; Senator Dixon of Rhode Island, chairman of committee on patents, vice Teller; Senator Mitchell, Oregon, chairman of the committee on claims, vice Spooner; Senator Casey of North Dakota, chairman of the committee

ON THE TURNER PLANTATION.

A GEORGIA BOY'S ADVENTURES DURING THE WAR.

BY JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS.

Author of "Uncle Remus," "Nights With Uncle Remus," "Daddy Jake, the Runaway," "Balaam and His Master," "Free Joe," Etc.

CHAPTER V.—(CONCLUDED.)

MR. WATTS' STORY.

IS. CHAMBLISS onlocked the door an' went in the house, an' slammed things down like she wuz mad. She flung the tongs down on the h'ath, slung the shovel in a corner, an' sot a cheer back like she wuz tryin' for to drive it thoo the wall. Then she begun to jaw.

"'I'll git 'im! Me a-tellin' 'im to stay an' min' the salad patch an' he a-runnin' off! Won't I make 'im pay for it!'

"'That's me,' says Johnny, an' he talked like he wuz mighty nigh ready to cry.

"'Thess wait!' says the little chap in the acorn. 'Keep right still!'

"Bimeby Mis. Chambliss come out'n the house an' looked all aroun'. Then she called Johnny. Johnny, he shook an' shivered, but he stayed still. His step-mammy called an' called, an' looked ever'whar for Johnny exceptin' in the right place. Then she went back in the house an' presently she come out. She had a little spade in one hand an' a little box in tother.

"'Watch her!' says the little chap in the acorn. 'Keep your eye on her!'

"She went down in the gyarden an' walked along till she come to a Mogul plum tree, an' then she knelt down an' begun to dig away at the roots of it. She dug an' dug, an' then she put the box in the hole an' covered it up.

"'Oho!' says the little chap in the acorn. 'Now you see whar she hides her money an' your daddy's money. I've been watchin' her a long time.'

"'I ain't botherin' 'bout the money,' says Johnny. 'I'm a-thinkin' 'bout the frailin' I'm gwine to git.'

"'Well,' says the little chap in the acorn, 'when she goes to the spring for to fetch a bucket of water, put me in your pocket an' climb down from here. Then go up the road apiece, an' there you'll see a red cow a'-grazin'. Walk right up to her, slap her on the back an' say, 'Ningapie wants you.' Fetch her home an' tell your step-mammy that a stranger told you that you might have her ef you'd go an' git her.'

"Shore enough, 'twant long before Mis. Chambliss come out'n the house an' started to the spring for to git a bucket of water. Time she got out'n sight Johnny put the acorn in his pocket an' scrambled down to the groun' an' then he split off up the road ez hard ez ever he could.

"He didn't go so mighty fur before he seed a red cow feedin' by the side of the road, an' she wuz a fine cow, too, lookin' like she mought be able fer to give four gallons a milk a day an' leave some over for the calf wheresoever the calf mought be.

"When she seed Johnny walkin' right to'rds her, she raised her head an' sorter blowed like cow creatures will do, but she stood stock still tell Johnny come up and patted her on the back and says:

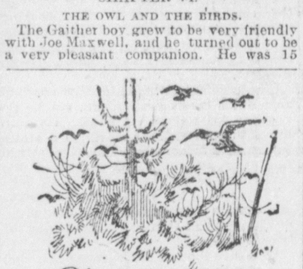
"'Ningapie wants you.'

"Then she shook her head an' trotted along at Johnny's heels, an' Johnny marched down the road a-swellin up wi' pride. When he got to the lane whar Johnny wuz a-stan'in' at the gate a-waitin' for him wi' a hickory, but when she seed the cow a-followin' 'long behine him, she took an' forgot all about the whippin' she'd laid up.

"'Why, Johnny!' says she, 'whar in the wide world did you git sech a be-u-tiful cow?'

"'Johnny, he up an' told his step-mammy what Ningapie tol' 'im to say, an' the ole 'oman, she wuz in about ez proud ez Johnny wuz. She patted the cow on the back an' then she took her in the lot to milk her.

"When night come," Mr. Wall continued, throwing another pineknot into the fire, "Johnny got some milk for his supper, an' then he went to bed. He helt the acorn to his ear fer to tell the little chap goodnight.



THEY MEAN WAR.

"'Don't put me on the shelf,' says Ningapie, 'and don't put me on the floor.'

"'Why?' says Johnny in a whisper.

"'Bekaze the rats might git me,' says Ningapie.

"'Well,' says Johnny, 'I'll let you sleep on my piller.'

"Some time in the night Johnny felt sump'n run across the foot of his bed. He wuz wide awake in a minit, but he kept mighty still, bekaze he wuz skeer'd. Pres-entlies he felt sump'n jump up on his bed an' run across it. Then it pooped in his head about Ningapie, an' he felt for the acorn till he found it.

"'Now's your time,' says Ningapie, 'Git up an' put on your clozes quick an' foller the little black dog.'

"Johnny jumped up, an' was ready in three shakes of a sheep's tail, an' he could hear the little black dog a-caperin' aroun' on the floor.

"When he started, he took the acorn in his han'. The door opened to let 'im out, an' shot itse'f when he got out, an' then the little black dog went trottin' down the big road.

"They hadn't gone fur before they come to a big white hoss a-stand n' in the road, chompin' his bit an' pawin' the groun'.

"'Mount the hoss,' says Ningapie.

"Johnny jumped on his back, an' the hoss went canterin' down the road. 'Twan't lone 'fore Johnny seed a light shinin' in the road, an' when he got a little nigher he seed it wuz right in the middle of the cross-roads.

"A fire wuz a-blazin' up thar, an' who should be a-feedin' of it but his step-mammy? Her hair was a-hangin' down, an' she looked like ole Mick hisse'f.

"She wuz a-walkin' 'roun' the blaze, a-mumblin' some kinder talk, an' a-makin' motions wi' her han's, an' thar wuz a great big black cat a-walkin' 'roun' wi' her, an' a-rubbin' up agin her, an' the creetur's tail wuz swelled up out'n all reason.

"'Watch out, now,' says Ningapie, 'an' hold on to your hoss.'

"He hadn't more'n spoke the words, before a pack of dogs broke out of the woods an' made right for the ole 'oman, an' Johnny's hoss a-follerin' 'em. Thar wuz a monstus scatteration of chunks an' fire-coals, an' then it looked like 'oman, dogs, an' all riz up in the elements, an' thar wuz sech another yowlin' and howlin' an' growlin' ez ain't never been heard in them parts before nor sence.

"When Johnny got back home he found his pappy a-waitin' for him, an' he looked like a new man. Then they went down into the gyarden, an' thar they foun' a pile of gold packed up in little boxes.

"Ez for the ole 'oman, she never did come back. She wuz a witch, an' Ningapie un-witched her.'"

"And what became of the acorn?" asked Joe Maxwell.

"Ah, Lord!" said Mr. Wall with a sigh, "you know how boys is. Like ez not Johnny took an' cracked it open wi' a hammer for to see what kind of a creetur Ningapie wuz."

CHAPTER VI.

THE OWL AND THE BIRDS.

The Gaither boy grew to be very friendly with Joe Maxwell, and he turned out to be a very pleasant companion. He was 15 years old, but looked younger, and although he had no book learning, he was very intelligent, having picked up a great deal of the wholesome knowledge that nature keeps in store for those who make her acquaintance.

He could read a little, and he could write his name, which he took great pride in doing, using a stick for a pen and a bed of sand for a copy-book.

Walking along through the fields or woods he would pause wherever the rains had washed the sand together and write his name in full in letters that seemed to be wrestling with each other—"James K. Polk Gaither."

As there was another James in his family he was called Jim-Polk Gaither.

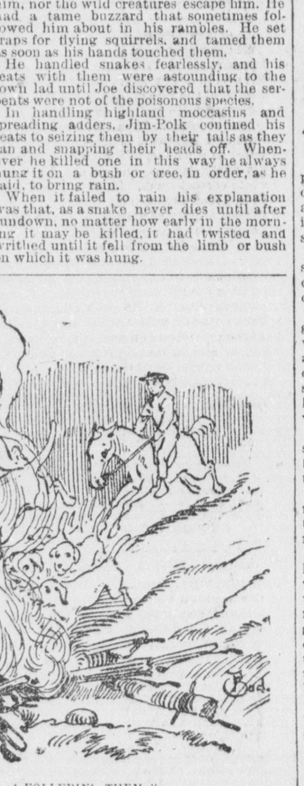
His friendship was worth a great deal to Joe Maxwell, for there was not a bird in the woods nor a tree that he did not know the name of and something of its peculiarities; and he was familiar with every road and bypath in all the country around.

The birds could not hide their nests from him, nor the wild creatures escape him. He had a tame buzzard that sometimes followed him about in his rambles. He set traps for flying squirrels, and tamed them as soon as his hands touched them.

He handled snakes fearlessly, and his feats with them were astounding to the town lad until Joe discovered that the serpents were not of the poisonous species.

In handling highland moccasins and spreading adders, Jim-Polk confined his feats to seizing them by their tails as they lay and snapping their heads off. Whenever he killed one in this way he always hung it on a bush or tree, in order, as he said, to bring rain.

When it failed to rain his explanation was that, as a snake never dies until after sundown, no matter how early in the morning it may be killed, it had twisted and writhed until it fell from the limb or bush on which it was hung.



"AND JOHNNIE'S HORSE A-FOLLERIN' THEM."

Once when the two lads were walking through the woods, they saw a pair of hawks some distance away. Jim-Polk motioned to Joe to hide under a hawthorn bush. Then, doubling his handkerchief before his mouth, he began to make a curious noise—a series of smothered exclamations that sounded like hoo!—hoo!—hoo-hoo! He was imitating the cry of the swamp owl, which Joe Maxwell had never heard.

The imitation was not hoo! hoo! perfect, for immediately there was a great commotion in the woods. The smaller birds fluttered away and disappeared; but the two hawks, re-enforced by a third, came flying toward the noise with their feathers ruffled and screaming with indignation.

Then came war. Jim-Polk continued his muffled cries until presently the boys heard a crow cawing in the distance.

"Now you'll see fun," said young Gaither. "Just keep right still."

The crow was flying high in the air, and would have gone over but the muffled cry of the owl made him hoo! hoo! caught its ear and it paused in its flight, alighting in the top of a tall pine.

Swinging in its airy outlook, it sent forth its hoarse signals, and in a few minutes the pine was black with its companions, all making a tremendous outcry.

Some of them dropped down into the tops of the scrub oaks. They could not find the owl, but they caught sight of the hawks and sounded their war cry. Such cawing, screaming, fluttering and fighting Joe Maxwell had never seen before.

The hawks escaped from the crows, but they left many of their feathers on the battlefield. One of the hawks did not wholly escape, for, in his fright he flew out of the woods into the open and there he was pounced on by a king-bird, which Jim-Polk called a bee-martin.

This little bird, not larger than his cousin, the catbird, lit on the hawk's back and stayed there as long as they remained in sight.

The incident was very interesting to Joe Maxwell. He discovered that the owl is the winged Ishmael of the woods, the most hated and most feared of all the birds. A few days afterward he went with Harbert to see the hogs fed, and he told the negro how all the birds seemed to hate the owl.

"Lord! yes sah!" said Harbert, who seemed to know all about the matter. Ain't you never is hear tell er de tale 'bout de owl an' de yuther birds? Ole man Remus tole it ter me dis many a year ago, an' sence den I bin hear talk about it mo' times dan what I got fingers an' toes."

Of course Joe wanted to hear.

The Story of the Owl.

"Well, sah," said Harbert, "hit run sorter like dis: One time way back yander, 'fo' ole man Remus wuz born'd, I speak, all de birds wuz in cahoots; dem what fly in de a'r, an' dem what walk on de groun', an' dem what swim on de water—all un um.

"Dey all live in one settlement, an' whatsomever dey mought pick up endurin' er de day, dey'd fetch it ter de place wharbouts dey live at, an' put it wid de rest wnat de yuther ones bin a ketchin' and a fetchin'.

"Dey kep' on dis away, 'twel 'twant long 'fo' dey done save up a right smart pile er fust one thing an' den anudder. De pile got so big dat dey 'gun ter git skeer'd dat some un 'ud come 'long whilst dey wuz away an' he'p derse'f.

"Bimeby some er de mo' 'spicious 'mong um up an' say dat somebody bin stealin' fum de provision what dey savin' up 'ginst hard times. Mr. Jaybird, he coyspon' wid Mr. Crow, an' Mr. Crow, he coyspon' wid Miss Chicken Hawk, an' Miss Chicken Hawk, she coyspon' wid Mr. Eagle, which he wuz de big buckra er all de birds.

"An' den dey all coyspon' wid one anudder, an' dey 'low dat dey bleeze ter tel' somebody dar fer ter watch der winter wittles whiles dey er off a-huntin' up mo'.

"Mr. Eagle, he up an' say dat de bes' dey kin do is ter 'pint Mr. Owl fer ter keep watch.

"Mr. Owl, he sorter hoot at dis, but 'tain't do no good, kase de yuthers, dey say dat all Mr. Owl got ter do is to sleep mo' endurin' er de night an' stay 'wake enduriu' er de day.

"So den." Harbert went on, pausing as if trying to remember the thread of his story, "dey 'pinted Mr. Owl fer ter keep watch, an' dey all flew off, some one way an' some anudder.

"Mr. Owl, he tuck his seat, eh did, whar he kin take in a right smart stretch er country wid his big eyeball, an' he sot dar right peart. But bimeby he 'gun ter git lone-some, an' fo' he know what he doin' he wuz a settin dar noddin' same ez a nigger by a hick'ry fire.

"Well, suh, dar he wuz, settin up fast asleep. 'Long in de co'se er de day Mr. Crow an' Mr. Jaybird dez struck up wid one anudder out in de woods, an' dey sot down in a popular tree fer ter carry on a confab. Dey done bin coyspon' wid one anudder, an' dey bofe bin pullin' up corn, Mr. Crow 'low ter Mr. Jaybird dat he aint so mighty certain an' shore 'bout Mr. Owl, kase he mighty sleepy-headed.

"'Dey sot dar an' swop talk 'bout Mr. Owl, twel, after a while, dey 'gree ter go back ter de settlement an' see what Mr. Owl doin'.

"Well, suh, dey went dar, an' dar dey foun' 'im. Yasser! Mr. Owl sholy wuz dar. He wuz settin' up on a lim' wid his head flung under his wing, an' 'twuz all dey kin do fer ter wake 'im up.

"Dey hollered at 'im des loud ez dey kin, an' bimeby he woke up an' tuck his head out fum under his wing an' look at um des ez sollum ez a cammpeetin' preacher. Dey 'buze 'im—dey quolled—dey call 'im out 'n his name—dey jowered at 'im—but taint do no good.

"He des sot dar, he did, an' look at um, an' he aint say nuttin' 'tall.

"Dis make Mr. Crow an' Mr. Jaybird mighty mad, kaze when folks quoil an' can't git nobody for ter quoil back at um, it make um wusser mad dan what dey wuz at fust.

"Dat night when de yuther birds come home, Mr. Crow an' Mr. Jaybird, dey had a mighty tale ter tell. Some b'lieved um an' some didn' b'lieve um. But de big birds, dey sorter helt off, an' say dey gwine ter give Mr. Owl anudder chance.

"Well, suh, dey give Mr. Owl two mo trials, let alone one, an' eve'y time dey lef' 'im in her 'sponsible charge, dey'd fin' 'im fast as sleep. An' dat ain't all: dey skiv-ered dat somebody done bin slippin' in an' totin' off der provisions.

"Dat settle de hash fer Mr. Owl. De birds sot a day an' fotch Mr. Owl up fer ter stan' trial down de law, dat fum dat time forrud Mr. Owl shall be 'sidered de yuther birds's 'sistant, an' dat de nex' time dey kotch 'im out de word wuz ter be giv, an' dey wuz all ter fall foul un 'im an' frail 'im out.

"Den dey sat dat when he sleep he got ter sleep wid bofe eyes wide open, an' dey lay it down dat he got ter keep watch all night long, an' dat whensomever he hear any fuss he got ter holler out:

"'Who—who—who pesterin' we all?'

"Dat de way de law stan's," continued Harbert, placing his basket of corn on the top rail of the fence, "an' dat de way it gwine ter stan'. Down ter dis day, when Mr. Owl asleep, he sleep wid his eye wide open, an' when de yuther birds ketch 'im out, dey light on to 'm like folks puttin' out fire, an' when he ups an' hollers in de night time, you kin hear 'im say:

"'Who—who—who pesterin' we all?'"

[Copyright, 1891.]

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

NIBSY PLAYS SANTA CLAUS.

A True Story of the East Side.

BY J. A. RIIS,

Author of "How the Other Half Lives," etc.

T was Christmas eve over on the East Side. Darkness was closing in on a cold, hard day. The light that struggled through the frozen windows of the delicatessen store, and the saloon on the corner fell upon men, with empty dinner pails, who were hurrying homeward, their coats buttoned tightly, and heads bent against the steady blast from the river, as if they were butting their way down the street.

The wind had forced the door of the saloon ajar, and was whistling through the crack; but in there it seemed to make no one afraid.

Between roars of laughter, the clink of glasses and the rattle of dice on the hard-wood counter were heard out in the street, and more than one of the passers-by as he came within range was taken with an extra shiver, in which the vision of wife and little ones waiting at home for his coming was snuffed out, and dropped in to brace up.

The lights were long out when the silent streets re-echoed his unsteady steps toward home, where the Christmas welcome had turned to dread.

Where the lamps in the delicatessen store made a mottled streak of brightness across the flags, two little boys stood with their noses flattened against the window.

Their warm breath made little round holes on the frosty pane, that came and went, affording passing glimpses of the wealth within, of the piles of smoked herring, of golden cheese, of sliced bacon and generous, fat-bellied hams; of the rows of odd-shaped bottles and jars on the shelves that held there was no telling what good things, only it was certain that they must be good from the looks of them.

And the heavenly smell of spices and things that reached the boys through the open door each time the tinkling bell announced the coming or going of a customer!

Better than all, back there on the top shelf the stacks of square honey cakes, with their frosty coats of sugar, tied in bundles with strips of blue paper.

The wind blew straight through the patched and threadbare jackets of the lads as they crept closer to the window, struggling hard with the frost to make their peep-holes bigger, to take in the whole of the big cake with the almonds set in; but they did not know it.

"Jim!" piped the smaller of the two, after a longer stare than usual; "Hey, Jim! them's Santa Clauses. See 'em?"

"Sante Claus!" snorted the other scornfully, applying his eye to the clear spot on the pane. "There ain't no ole duffer like dat. Them's honey-cakes. Me 'n' Tom had a bite of one wunst."

"There ain't no Sante Claus?" retorted the smallest shaver, hotly, at his peephole. "There is, too. I seen him myself when he cum to our alley last—"

"What's youse kids a-fightin' of?" broke in a strange voice.

Another boy, bigger, but dirtier and tougher looking than either of the two, had come up behind them unobserved. He carried an armful of unsold "extras" under one arm. The other was buried to the elbow in the pocket of his ragged trousers.

The "kids" knew him evidently, and the smallest eagerly accepted him as umpire.

"It's Jim w'at says there ain't no Sante Claus, and I seen him—"

"Jim!" demanded the elder ragamuffin, sternly, looking hard at the culprit, "Jim! Y'ere a chump. No Sante Claus? What're ye t'rin' us. Now, watch me!"

With utter amazement the boys saw him disappear through the door under the tinkling bell into the charmed precincts of smoked herring, jam and honey-cakes.

Petrified at their peepholes, they watched him, in the veritable presence of Santa Claus himself with the fir-branch, fish out five battered pennies from the depths of his pocket and pass them over to the woman behind the jars, in exchange for one of the bundles of honey-cakes tied with blue.

As if in a dream they saw him issue forth with the coveted prize.

"There, kid!" he said, holding out the two fattest and whitest cakes to Santa Claus' champion; "there's yer Christmas. Run along, now, to yer barracks, and you, Jim, here's one for you, though yer don't desarve it. Mind ye let the kid alone.

"This one will have to do for me grub, I guess, I ain't seen me 'Newsies,' and the ole man'll kick if I bring 'em home."

And before the shuffling feet of the ragamuffins hurrying homeward had turned corner the last mouthful of the newsboy's supper was smothered in a yell of "Extree!" as he shot across to start to intercept a passing stranger.

. . . . . .

As the evening wore on it grew rawer and

NIBSY IN THE HOSPITAL.

more blustering still. Flakes of dry snow, that stayed where they fell, slowly tracing the curblines, the shutters and the doorsteps of the tenements with gathering white were borne upon the storm from the water.

To the right and left stretched endless streets, between the towering barracks, as beneath frowning cliffs, pierced with a thousand glowing eyes that revealed the watch fires within—a mighty city of cave-dwellers held in the thraldom of poverty and want.

From the depth of a blind alley, leading into the block, floated out the discordant strains of a vagabond brass band, "blowing in" the yule of the poor.

Against more than one pane showed the bald outline of a forlorn little Christmas tree, some stray branch of a hemlock picked up at the grocer's and set in a pail for "the childer" to dance around, a dime's worth of candy and tinsel on the boughs.

From the attic over the way came, in spells between, the gentle notes of a German song about the Christ-child. Christmas in the East Side tenements begins with the sunset for the "holy eve," except where the name is as a threat or a taunt.

To these, what was Christmas but the name for persecution, for suffering, reminder of lost kindred and liberty, the slavery of 2000 years, freedom from which was purchased only with gold. Aye, gold! At the thought, the tired eye glistened, the aching back straightened, and to the weary foot there came new strength to finish the long task while the city slept.

Where a narrow passageway put it between two big tenements to a ramshackle rear barrack, Nibsy, the newsboy, halted in the shadow of the doorway and stole a long look down the dark alley.

He toyed uncertainly with his still unsold papers, worn dirty and ragged as his clothes by this time, before he ventured in, picking his way between barrels and heaps of garbage past the Italian cobbler's hovel, where a tallow dip stuck in a cracked beer glass in front of a cheap print of the "Mother of God" showed that even he knew it was Christmas and liked to show it; past the McKoarty flat, where blows and drunken curses mingled with the shriek of women, as Nibsy had heard many nights before this one.

Down to its farthest end, and the last rickety flight of steps that led into the filth and darkness of the tenement.

Up this he crept three flights to a door, at which he stopped and listened, listening as he had stopped at the entrance to the alley; then, with a sudden, defiant gesture, he pushed it open and went in.

A bare and cheerless room; a pile of rags for a bed in the corner, another in the dark alcove, miscalled bedroom; under the window a broken cradle and an iron-bound chest, upon which a tallow candle was stuck in its own grease, and a bent woman was busy with a pan of potatoes in a pan; in the middle of the room a rusty-looking stove, with a pile of wood dropped on the floor alongside.

A man on his knees in front fanning the fire with an old slouch hat. With every breath of draught he stirred, the crazy old pipe belched forth torrents of smoke at every point.

As Nibsy entered the man desisted from his efforts, and sat up glaring at him. A villainous, ruffian's face, scowling with anger.

"Late agin!" he growled; "an' yer papers not sold. What did I tell yer, brat, if ye darelte—"

"Tom! Tom!" broke in the wife, in a desperate attempt to soothe the ruffian's temper. "The boy can't help it, an' it's Christmas eve. For the love o'—"

"To thunder with yer rot and with yer brat!" shouted the man, mad with the fury of passion. "Let me at him!" and, reaching over, he seized a heavy knot of wood and flung it at the head of the boy.

Nibsy had remained just inside the door, edging slowly toward his mother, but with his watchful eye on the man at the stove.

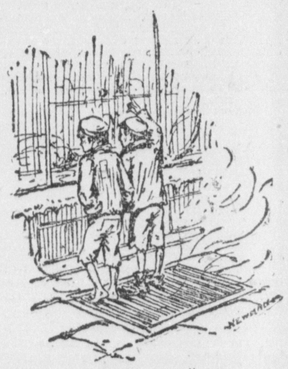
At the first movement of his hand toward the door he sprang toward the stairway with the agility of a cat, and just dodged the missile. It struck the door as he slammed it behind him, with force enough to smash the panel.

Down the three flights in as many jumps Nibsy went, and through the alley, over barrels and barriers, never stopping once till he reached the street, and curses and shouts were left behind.

In his flight he had lost his unsold papers, and he felt ruefully in his pocket as he went down the street pulling his rags about him, as much from shame as to keep out the cold.

Four pennies were all he had left after his Christmas treat to the two little lads from the barracks; not enough for supper nor for a bed; and it was getting colder all the time.

On the sidewalk in front of the notion



THE BOYS BEFORE THE "DELICATESSEN SHOP."

store, a belated Christmas party was in progress. The children from tenements in the alley and across the way were having a game of blindman's buff, groping blindly about in the crowd to catch each other. To him, and Nibsy with shouts of laughter, calling to him to join in.

"We're having Christmas!" they yelled.

Nibsy did not hear them. He was thinking, thinking, the while turning over his four pennies at the bottom of his pocket.

Thinking if Christmas was ever to come to him, and the children's Santa Claus to find his alley, where the baby slept within reach of her father's cruel hand.

As for him, he had never known anything but blows and curses. He could take care of himself. But his mother and the baby—

And then it came to him with shuddering cold that it was getting late, and that he must find a place to sleep.

He weighed in his mind the merits of two or three places where he was in the habit of hiding from the "cops" when the alley got to be too hot for him.

Then was the hay barge down by the dock, with the watchman who got drunk sometimes, and so gave the boys a chance. The chances were at least even of its being available on Christmas eve, and of Santa Claus having thus done him a good turn after all.

Then there was the snug berth in the sand box you could curl all up in. Nibsy thought with regret of its being like the hay barge, so far away, and to windward, too.

Down by the printing offices there were the steam gratings, and a chance corner in the cellars, stories and stories underground, where the big presses keep up such a clatter from midnight till far into the day.

As he passed them in review, Nibsy made up his mind with sudden determination, and, setting his face toward the south, made off down town.

The rumble of the last departing news-wagon over the pavement now covered deep with snow, had died away in the distance, when, from out of the bowels of the earth there issued a cry, a cry of mortal terror and pain, that was echoed by a hundred throats.

From one of the deep cellarways a man ran out, his clothes and hair and beard afire; on his heels a scurrying throng of men and boys; following them, close behind, a rush of smoke and fire.

The clatter of the presses ceased suddenly, to be followed quickly by the clangor of hurrying fire bells. With hook and axes the firemen rushed in; hose was let down through the manholes, and down there in the depths the battle was fought and won.

The building was saved; but in the midst of the rejoicing over the victory there fell a sudden silence. From the cellarway a grimy, helmeted figure arose with something black and scorched in his arms.

A tarpaulin was spread upon the snow, and upon it he laid his burden, while the silent crowd made room, and word went over to the hospital to hurry the ambulance up.

Very gently they lifted poor little Nibsy—for it was he, caught in his berth by a worse enemy than the "cop" or the watchman of the hay-barge—into the ambulance that bore him off to the hospital cot, too late.

Conscious only of a vague discomfort that had succeeded terror and pain, Nibsy wondered uneasily why they were all so kind. Nobody had taken the trouble to as much as notice him before. When he had thrust his papers into their very faces they had pushed him roughly aside. Nibsy, unhurt and able to fight his way, never had a show. Sick and maimed and sore, he was being made much of, though he had been caught where the boys were forbidden to go. Things were queer, anyhow, and—

The room was getting so dark that he could hardly see the doctor's kindly face, and had to grip his hand tightly to make sure he was there; almost as dark as the stairs in the alley he had come down in such a hurry.

There was the baby now—poor baby—and her mother—and then a great blank, and it was all a mystery to poor Nibsy no longer. For, just as a wild-eyed woman pushed her way through the crowd of nurses and doctors at his bedside, crying for her boy, Nibsy gave up his soul to God.

. . . . . .

It was very quiet in the alley. Christmas day had come and gone. Upon the last door a bow of soiled crape was nailed up with two tacks. It had done duty there a dozen times before that year.

Upstairs, Nibsy was at home, and for one, the neighbors, one and all, old and young, came to see him.

Even the father, ruffian that he was, offered no objection. Cowed and silent, he sat in the corner by the window farthest from where the plain little coffin stood with the lid closed down.

A couple of the neighbor-women were talking in low tones by the stove, when there came a timid knock at the door.

Nobody answering, it was pushed open, first a little, then far enough to admit the shrinking form of the little ragamuffin, the smallest of the two who had stood breathing peep-holes on the window-pane of the delicatessen store the night before when Nibsy came along.

He dragged with him a hemlock branch, the leavings from some Christmas tree fitted into its block by the grocer for a customer.

"It is poor Santa Claus," he said laying it on the coffin. "Nibsy knows." And he went along.

Santa Claus had come to Nibsy after all in his alley, and Nibsy knew.

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WEST POINT IN WAR DAYS.

The Last Days as a Plebe.

BY CAPT. CHARLES KING, U. S. A.

X.

EN love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil," was a text we plebes in '62 believed in.

The hours that should have been devoted to rest and sleep were those of our liveliest exercise and harshest trials.

Nevertheless, there were other hours when the old hands made it lively for the new, and "hop nights," between the returns of the battalion from supper and the sounding of tatoo, were those we most detested.

Three evenings a week, sharp at the stroke of 8, Elsen's musicians would strike up in the engineering drawing-room at the north end of the "old academic," and from that moment until 2.10 the merry dance went on and the gallants of the corps of cadets with their fair partners had a charming time of it.

Not so the plebes. Not until a cadet had passed the probation of the first year is he, or was he, permitted to take part in these affairs.

Our duty was to remain in camp and amuse those lordlings of the upper classes who did not attend the hops.

As a rule the best men were those who sought and enjoyed ladies' society, but a ridiculous system that ought to have been squelched long before flourished in the corps in those days, and quite a number of the first and third classes (the second were on summer furlough) were members of the so-called "Bachelors' Club," a gang that had a cubbish idea that it was "smart" to be classed among those who cared nothing for "petticoats."

They wouldn't learn to dance, and wouldn't be seen with a girl unless she happened to be a near relation visiting the Point. In nine cases out of 10 these fellows were the most implacable "devillers" of the plebes, and the least desirable acquaintances.

I so dreaded those "hop nights" in camp, and the torments and tricks of these scamps of the "Bachelors' Club," combined with the "yanking" and other annoyances practiced after taps—especially after midnight—that almost any expedient was eagerly sought to avoid it.

The one I adopted would strike the modern cadet as odd in the last degree. Nowadays the tour of guard duty is looked forward to as a species of punishment—a day and night in which a fellow is deprived of his natural rest.

In my time I eagerly sought the detail as the surest means of getting any rest at all.

It was, at first, an easy thing to get on guard every other day by going as substitute for some old cadet who wanted to attend the hop, and in July I managed it pretty well.

This enabled me to "march on" at 8 o'clock, to spend my day walking post or on duty at the guard tents, and to walking post or getting cat-naps on a camp stool bed at night.

After the first three or four tours no one attempted any tricks at my expense when a sentry, and the only really undisturbed and peaceful hours I could count on were those when on guard or the blissful morning that followed "marching off," when, excused from all duty until the dinner roll-call, the cadet would wander up to the rocky heights of old "Fort Post," or out on the rugged flanks of Cro' Nest, and look down upon a picture matchless elsewhere in all the world.

But by August some official or other discovered the fact that certain plebes were perpetually on guard and certain yearlings never—and my happiness was at an end.

There was always some expedient afoot to get the plebes into an exasperating or ludicrous scrape. Some of them were moss-grown with years—played in the days of our forefathers. Others the product of later ingenuity.

One, the "stationery riot," so called, was an institution of great antiquity, and, having heard all about it, I waited to see when it would be sprung upon us, determined not to get caught.

One evening at mess the second captain, being temporarily in command (the same blessed fellow who deviled us so laughably at preliminary recitations and then helped the weak-hearted—many of them—in and through their early struggles), called for attention, and in his matter-of-fact way, but with suspicious twinkle in his merry eyes, sung out:

"All members of the fourth class who desire stationery for the ensuing month will call at the quartermaster's tent right after supper. First come, first served. 'B' company, rise. 'C' company, rise, etc."—the old, old formula.

Ten minutes later, when we broke ranks in camp, every plebe not in the secret made a tremendous rush down through the street of Company D to the office of the cadet quartermaster.

No officer, of corrse, was around at that hour. There never was.

Three or four of my classmates to whom I had whispered warning ran the other way, getting into Company A's street far from the scene, but it was useless. A cadet lieutenant sternly ordered us to join our comrades.

We protested we wanted no stationery. "Then it is your duty to notify the quartermaster." So go we had to, slowly and reluctantly.

Meantime, seeing a torrent of plebes come rushing and leaping down upon his tent and heaping up about his doorway, the cadet quartermaster-sergeant professed infinite alarm. The sentry on No. 5, duly instructed what to do in case of riot or disturbance, yelled for the guard.

The officer of the guard having half a dozen men in readiness, came charging down full tilt, and in less than no time the whole class was herded into double column of files and being marched to the guard tents charged with creating riot about the quartermaster's tent.

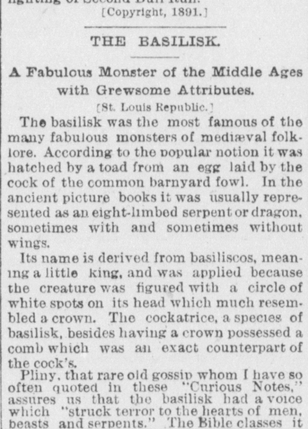
We who had held aloof were just as promptly and positively ordered to "fall in," and did so. It were a case of "disobedience of orders" had we refused, and then, at the point of the bayonet "the criminals" were crowded into the prisoners' tents, taking it good-naturedly as we knew how.

And now came retribution on our captors. They forced too many of us into one tent, and the worn canvas would not stand the strain.

Crack! split! Away went the back, flying into streamers, and away sped some forty exultant plebes. That tent was ruined, and the plebes did not have to pay for it, either.

And then came the 28th of August, the return of the furlough class at dinner time and the stag dance in the evening.

The corps had received permission to have a jubilee along the color line, an illumination of camp and, to assist in the spectacular effect, a costumer had been up



"I NEVER HAD HAD SO MUCH EXERCISE IN MY LIFE."

from New York with enough masquerading gear to stock a modern mardi gras.

Counting on getting on guard that day I had been excused from ordering a costume, but one of my tentmates, having to appear as an animal of some kind, concluded that he might as well be hanged for a polar bear as a plebe and chose that.

How it happened I don't remember but he got into the guard detail and I into that infernal hide and mask—the hottest, beastliest thing that could have been chosen for a sultry August evening.

I didn't want to, but some old cadet came promptly to the tent and persuaded me that it was the duty of this particular animal on this particular occasion to personate the monarch of the hyperborean seas.

And when the "grand march" took place by the light of the camp-fires and the torches, and in the midst of thronging and applauding spectators, while others danced erect as Indians and goblins, or strode in state as knights and marshals escorting lovely dames and damsels (three of the "prettiest" yearlings had been beautifully and fashionably attired by lady friends and relatives at the hotel), this particular plebe growled around on all fours and was stirred up with and made to jump over broomsticks in the hands of more than one laughing fellow who has since risen to the stars themselves, stirring up nobler game in the field of war.

One thing is certain. On that, the last night of our camp of '62, the upper classmen hotly redeemed the promises of June in behalf of "that plebe who thought he'd learned something in the army of the Potomac."

I never had so much exercise in my life, and at the very time when I was capering as a polar bear the annual stag dance at the Point, man after man in the dear old brigade I had left in front of Chain Bridge was going down in the terrible grapple with Stonewall Jackson, Ewell, Starke and Taliaferro on the slopes just north of the Warrenton turnpike—just west of Groveton.

It was the beginning of the three days' fighting of Second Bull Run.

[Copyright, 1891.]

THE BASILISK.

A Fabulous Monster of the Middle Ages with Grewsome Attributes.

[St. Louis Republic.]

The basilisk was the most famous of the many fabulous monsters of mediæval folklore. According to the popular notion it was hatched by a toad from an egg laid by the cock of the common barnyard fowl. In the ancient picture books it was usually represented as an eight-limbed serpent or dragon, sometimes with and sometimes without wings.

Its name is derived from basiliscos, meaning a little king, and was applied because the creature was figured with a circle of white spots on its head which much resembled a crown. The cockatrice, a species of basilisk, besides having a crown possessed a comb which was an exact counterpart of the cock's.

Pliny, that rare old gossip whom I have so often quoted in these "Curious Notes," assures us that the basilisk had a voice which "struck terror to the hearts of men, beasts and serpents." The Bible classes it with the lion, the serpent and the dragon, as one of the most formidable creatures.

Old writers, Pliny, Bascho and others, say that its bite was mortal in every case; that its breath was suffocating, and that no plant would grow in the vicinity of its lair. Its dead body was often used, suspended in belfries, to prevent swallows nesting there.

If you have read the popular stories of the day you have noted many allusions to the "basilisk glitter" in some hero or heroine's eye. This "glitter" was the basilisk's main stock in trade.

With it he is said to have darted death to every living thing he looked upon. Some old histories tell us how a pet basilisk climbed the walls of an Asian city which Alexander the Great was besieging and killed over 200 of his soldiers by simply gazing down upon them.

All plants withered when this monster fixed his eyes upon them, with one single exception, rue. The crowing of a cock would kill every basilisk that heard it.

How Gold Was Discovered in Australia.

[Chicago Evening News.]

No one suspected that Australia was rich in gold until after the precious metal had been found in California. Among the thousands who flocked to the Pacific coast from all parts of the world in search of fortune and adventure was Edward Hargraves.

His home was in the district of Conobolas, about 30 miles west of Bathurst, Australia. He had only moderate success in California and determined to return.

In the course of his mining operations he had noticed a strong similarity between the rock formations of the gold districts west of the Rocky mountains and those of the neighborhood in which he had been brought up.

It occurred to him that the yellow metal might be found in Australia, and as soon as he reached home he began a careful investigation of the soil in the vicinity of Conobolas. The experience he had gained in California proved of great value to him, and after digging for a month or two he discovered a quantity of gold.

This was in 1851. The colonial government gave him a reward and made him commissioner of the crown lands.

When the news of his good fortune became generally known the whole of New South Wales was in a ferment of excitement. Everybody sought for gold. The fever spread to other provinces and gold was discovered in many localities.

A native in the service of Dr. Kerr of Wallawa, while tending sheep, found a mass of solid gold in a heap of quartz. Three blocks of quartz taken from a creek 50 miles north of Bathurst contained $20,000 worth of gold.

Among the big lumps of pure gold found were the "Victoria nugget," weighing 340 ounces, and the "Welcome nugget," weighing 202 ounces. Another solid piece of virgin gold weighed 106 pounds.

The abundance of the metal may be realized when it is said that in November, 1856, the ships James Baines and Lightning alone brought to England from Melbourne $6,000,000 worth.

PATAGONIAN CHANNELS.

A Forbidding Corner of the World Where it Snows or Rains Daily and Twilight Falls at 4 O'Clock.

[Fannie B. Ward's Letter.]

The Patagonian channels, of which there are many besides this one named "Smythe," are remarkably alike in general features—some broadening out four or five miles, others narrowing to a ship's length. All of them have high, abrupt shores, showing innumerable peaks and headlands, whose dark and rugged shapes lend an appearance of gloomy grandeur rarely to be seen elsewhere.

Probably the weather has much to do with the prevailing dreariness, for the sun never smiles brightly upon this forbidden corner of the creation, where it snows or rains every day in the year and twilight falls at 4

CHAPTER I.

On the 24th of December, 1880, I was standing in a little country railway station in a state of perplexity. Near me, sitting in a chair by the stove, was a young lady, also in a state of perplexity.

Facing us both stood the station master, who had been in a state of perplexity, but was getting out of it.

"Just you wait here 10 minutes," he said, "and I'll see what I can do for you," and putting on a fur cap and an ulster he went out of doors.

The state of the case was this: Miss Welden, the lady by the stove, was on her way to join a Christmas party at the house of her uncle, Mr. Dolliver, some seven miles from the station, and I, invited to the same house, had been delighted to meet her on the train. We were good friends, and had studied art together in Paris. When we left the city in a morning train, a little snow was beginning to fall, and as we journeyed northward we found the snowfall heavier and heavier, and we had arrived at this little village of Boynton at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, an hour behind time.

From Boynton to the Dolliver house we were to go by a stage coach, but the stage driver had left more than an hour previously, hurrying away before his ordinary time of starting, for fear the road would be blocked up before he could get to his home, a good 12 miles away, and assuring himself that there would be no passengers for him on such a day.

It was reasonable enough that we should be perplexed, for we could not see, nor at first could the station master see, how we were to get to our journey's end that day.

If we should wait until next day, he told us, the stage driver would be back in a sleigh. He said he would be sure to come—for Christmas packages, if not for passengers. But we could not wait until next day.

It would be better to return to the city in the next down train, if happily one should come.

We could not hope that the Dolliver would send for us, for if they saw the stage pass without stopping they would be sure we had not come by the train.

The station master was a good man, and did his best to get us out of our trouble. He had doubts about another train coming down that day—it was a branch road with one track—and he thought it would be a great pity if the Dolliver should be deprived of the company of two of their Christmas guests; a lot of them had come up the day before.

Nobody in the village made a business of hiring out vehicles or carrying passengers, but an idea had struck the station master, and he had gone out to see what he could do with it.

"'JUST YOU WAIT HERE TEN MINUTES.'"

In about a quarter of an hour he returned.

"Well, sir," he said, "there is just one thing you can do. There isn't anybody in this village who will go to Dolliver's today, for there is no chance of getting back tonight, but the man who keeps the store here, Mr. Peter Chase, has got a horse and sleigh, and if you choose to hire that of him and do your own driving, I think you can get it, if you are willing to pay him something extra, for he'll have to send a man over tomorrow with the stage driver to bring it back, and besides in rough times like these people always charge something extra."

I put the matter before Miss Welden, and she did not hesitate to say that rather than take the risk of being obliged to remain in the village, where there were no accommodations for strangers, she would take the risk of letting me drive her to the Dollivers.

"It is only seven miles," she said, "and if the horse is good enough I don't see what there is to happen."

I tramped through the snow to Peter Chase's store, and quickly arranged with him for the hire of his horse and sleigh.

"Five dollars may seem a good deal, sir," he said, "for a trip like that, but this is a pretty deep snow, and we all ought to remember that Christmas comes but once a year. I'll have the sleigh around at the station in 10 minutes."

In half an hour a little sleigh drawn by a big brown horse came up to the back door of the station.

"I would have been here sooner," said Mr. Chase, "but it was a good while before I could find the bells, and I knowed you wouldn't want to take a Christmas sleigh-ride without bells."

I did not complain of the delay, although I had been getting dreadfully impatient. The station master had had a telegram from up the line, stating that a down train with a snow plough was on its way, and I was very much afraid that Miss Welden would conclude to wait and take this train back to the city.

So, without loss of time we bundled in. The Christmas-minded Mr. Chase had brought two heavy fur robes, our valises were packed in behind, the sleigh being of the box variety, and we were ready.

There is no mistaking the way," said Mr. Chase. "You go straight ahead until you come to the house."

"Which I know perfectly well," added Miss Welden, and away we jingled.

The snow was still falling, but we did not mind that, and now that we had started off, I was glad that Mr. Chase had waited to find the bells.

Their merry jingle suited my spirits well. A jolly sleighride with Clara Welden was more enjoyment than I had counted on for this Christmas.

A young man and a young woman, both of lively dispositions, good friends, fellow-workers, and nothing more, are much more likely to have a merry time in a case like this than if they were a pair of lovers, or even if one of them were a lover.

True love implies a certain seriousness, and is not infrequently conducive to demureness.

The snow was deep on the road, and sometimes drifted, but the sleigh went through it well enough. The horse, however, probably not a very good traveller on the best of roads, made but slow progress.

But, although he was an animal of deliberate action, possessing, as Miss Welden thought, an æsthetic turn of mind, which made him object to destroy the virgin smoothness of the snow with his great hoofs, he was strong, and that was the main point.

With reason to believe that we should safely reach our journey's end, it did not trouble me that we were making that journey slowly, and my companion appeared to be of my way of thinking.

The beauty of the snow-decorated forests, fields and hills were enough to make our artist-hearts satisfied, even if the horse should decline to do more than walk.

It began to grow dark and darker we both began to wish that we stood in the light and the warmth of the Dolliver house. I whipped the horse, who made a few bounds through the snow and then relapsed into his former trot. It was of no use to try to hurry him.

"'HE WAS AN ANIMAL OF DELIBERATE ACTION.'"

Several times Miss Welden had assured me that she was not in the least anxious, and that she was sure we should now reach the house in a very short time.

I think she was about to say something of the kind again, when suddenly she exclaimed, in a voice that had a ring of hearty cheerfulness in it, very different from her previous expressions of thoughtful encouragement:

"Here it is. Didn't I tell you? We are at the very gate."

Sure enough, there was the gate with a lamp on one of the posts, and there, in the midst of its whitened grounds, was the house, the windows lighted and a lamp on the piazza.

When I pulled up to the door I attempted to bound from the sleigh, but my bound was a poor one, for I found my legs were somewhat stiffened by the cold.

As I helped Miss Welden to alight, I could perceive she was not nearly so active as I had generally known her.

The door opened before we had time to reach it, and an elderly woman, with a Christmas look about her, which was absolutely warming, stood in the broad portal.

We stopped on the piazza before entering, stamping and shaking ourselves, for we were two figures of snow.

"Our valises are in the back of the sleigh," I said, and to my surprise my teeth chattered a little as I spoke, "I think the horse will stand until some one takes him."

We then went in. Suddenly Miss Welden stopped, and looked from right to left, and, turning to the good woman, she exclaimed:

"This is not Mr. Dolliver's house!"

"Of course not," said the other, "did you think it was? Maj. Pendallas lives here."

Miss Welden and I looked at each other in dismay.

"We have made a mistake," I said, "how much farther on is it to the Dolliver place?"

"It isn't farther on at all," the woman replied. "It is not on this road at all."

"It is too bad," I said. "They told us at Boynton it was a straight road, and we could not miss it."

"So it is, but three miles below here there is a fork that anybody might mistake, especially at night, with the roads unbroken. But come in and get warm, you must be half frozen. I'll have a man throw a blanket over the horse," and with this she showed us into a large room with a wood fire blazing on the hearth. She pushed two chairs before the fire.

"Sit down," she said, "and get a little warm. If I am not mistaken this is Miss Clara Welden. Yes, I thought so. It's been a long time since I have seen you. I am Mrs. Bardsley. I keep house for Maj. Pendallas. Excuse me for a moment."

"What a grand thing this fire is," said I, "and who is Maj. Pendallas?"

"I never saw him in my life," said Miss Welden, following my example and drawing up close to the fire. "but I have often heard of him. He used to be in the army, I think, and now he has a stock farm, and has all sorts of fine horses and cows. I wonder if he would be willing to send us over to my uncle's. I can't bear to think of starting out again in that sleigh and with that horse.

I was glad she did not include the driver in her objections, and said I hoped that the major would be able to do something for us.

But at the time I did not give much thought to the subject, for my whole soul was occupied in revelling in the genial heat. I had had no idea that I was so cold.

In about five minutes the door opened, and a tall, broad-shouldered man, wearing a heavy pea-jacket and an unmistakable air of being the master of the house, entered the room.

He was middle-aged, had side whiskers and bright blue eyes. We both rose, and with outstretched hand he greeted Miss Welden.

"Delighted to see you," he said, in a hearty tone. "Mrs. Bardsley tells me you have lost your way, but that doesn't matter; I'll make that all right."

Then he turned towards me, and Miss Welden introduced me.

"Ashmead?" he repeated, as he grasped me by the hand.

"Yes," I replied, "Henry G. Ashmead."

As I spoke he gave me a quick look, and seemed about to say something in reference to my name, but he checked himself, and urged us to sit down again.

"What you must do now is to get warm, get warm," he said, and he put two great logs on the fire.

With a few quick questions, and without sitting down, he made himself acquainted with the situation. For a moment he gazed down upon us, and then he said:

"The first thing to do, now that you are a little thawed, is to get off your coats and wraps."

"That is hardly worth while," I replied, "for as soon as we are well warmed we must get on, in some way or other, to the Dolliver house."

"Sir," said Maj. Pendallas, "there is no Dolliver house for you tonight. Here you are, and here you stay. It is three miles back to the main road, and then you would have two miles more to go, and before you reached the Dolliver house there is a long hollow, and at this present moment the snow is probably drifted five feet. If you had taken the right road you most likely would have been in that snowdrift now. I have sleighs and teams enough, and no doubt I could pull you through, but it is blowing now as well as snowing, and I am not going to let a young lady go out into a storm like this, especially when she has had already as much as she is able to stand of that sort of thing. Your bags will be brought in and your horse put in the stable. Mrs. Bardsley will take charge of Miss Welden. I'll attend to you, sir, and supper will be ready in half an hour," and without waiting for an answer he left the room.

We looked at each other and laughed.

"That is just what I hoped he would do," said Miss Welden. "I have had all the sleighing I want for this day."

"Good," I cried, throwing off my overcoat, "I feared I might have to persuade you."

"That is really absurd," she said, "as if the storm and Maj. Pendallas were not quite enough."

In five minutes Miss Welden had been carried off by the beaming Mrs. Bardsley, while Maj. Pendallas conducted me to a bedroom on the ground floor, in which I found a crackling wood fire.

The house was a large one, and seemed to be lighted from top to bottom.

We three sat down to a big round supper table, and as might have been expected the meal was bountiful, hot and most grateful and cheery to the two storm-beaten travellers, who had eaten nothing since breakfast except an unattractive luncheon on the train.

Our host did most of the talking, and we were well content to have him do it.

"You cannot imagine," he burst out, as soon as we were seated, "how glad I am to have you two people here. I expected to spend this Christmas eve absolutely alone, and I should have felt that, for I never did anything of the kind before, and from a boy I have thought more of Christmas eve than of Christmas day. There is less of a strain in it. On Christmas day you feel as if you ought to be awfully jolly, because if you don't you won't have another chance for a year. On Christmas eve one can be jolly without thinking of it. If there are any shortcomings they can be made up next day. Last year my niece was with me, and we had plenty of company, but now she's married and cleared out, utterly. Gone to Europe with her husband and intends to stay there.

"But the storm has been good to me. Let me give you a piece of this chicken, sir, and some butter. This is Christmas butter, especially made from the cream of two cows both granddaughters of the great Cavalier George."

The major's anticipation of a truly jolly Christmas eve was interfered with by Miss Welden, who declared shortly after 9 o'clock that she was so fatigued by her day's experiences, that she would be obliged to bid us good-night. When she had gone the major and I each lighted a cigar and drew up before the big fire in the parlor.

"I can't help being disappointed," said he, "for I intended to get up a lot of games, and have Mrs. Bardsley and her daughter in. They are very respectable people, and at Christmas time we always have them in at the games. But bed is the best place for Miss Welden after what she has pulled through this day. And I am so rejoiced to have you both in the house that I shan't grumble. It doesn't matter in the least that when the sun set today I had never seen either of you, nor you me. I know who you are, and you know who I am—at least Miss Welden knows, and that's enough."

"But you don't know me," I said.

"Indeed, I do," he exclaimed, slapping one of his spread-out knees, and leaning toward me. "I know you in the best kind of a way. I have one of your pictures. Now don't go and say you are not the artist, Henry G. Ashmead."

"I am that man," I replied.

"I didn't doubt it," said the major, leaning back in his chair. "You look like it. I am a bachelor, sir, and it takes a good deal to keep that sort of a man content and easy in his mind. Pictures and books help a lot in that way, and I make it a point every year to buy a good picture. I got one of yours last fall, and I am very fond of looking at it. Come with me and I'll show it to you."

The major then preceded me to a medium-sized room in the front of the house, which he called his reading room.

"It isn't a study," said he, "for I never study, and it isn't a library, for it hasn't books enough for that, but it is as good a room to read in as I know. A fine light and always cool in summer—there is the picture"—and he held up a lamp before one of my large landscapes.

"I thought Burnet owned that," I exclaimed.

"Yes, he did, but he's been hard up lately and had to sell off part of his collection. I snapped up that as soon as I saw it. There are things in that picture that you seldom see in paintings. That's timothy grass in that meadow, and a cut about the end of June would make hay worth about $20 a ton. It's ready to cut now," said he, "and from the looks of the leaves on the trees and the size of those mullein plants, I should say it was in June that you took it."

"I made my studies in June," I said.

"Good!" he cried; "I knew it. There's no nonsense about that meadow, such as you would see in most pictures. No bushes and straggling briers, or patches of red clover, and orchard grass. I am a straightforward and practical man, and I like a straightforward and practical picture. Of course, you couldn't help the daisies, and no more can I in my own meadows.

"Now, then," said he, when we were again before the fire, you can see for yourself how I know you, and I can tell you that it delights me to have in my house the man who painted that picture. After a while I'll brew a bowl of Regent's punch. But it isn't late enough for that. We'll have a bachelor night of it. By next Christmas I suppose the young lady will put a veto on bachelor nights."

"Veto," said I, 'what do you mean?"

"You will surely be married by next Christmas," he replied.

"Married!" I exclaimed with a laugh, "We have never thought of being married."

The major took his cigar from his mouth, put his hands upon his knees, leaned forward and looked at me.

"Do you mean to say, sir, that you and Miss Welden are not engaged to be married?"

"Not at all," said I. "We have known each other a long time, but we are friends and nothing more."

"Well, I'll be hanged!" cried Maj. Pendallas, throwing away his cigar and rising abruptly from his chair. Then, standing with his back to the fire, he looked down upon me.

"Now I am disappointed, I surely thought you were a team, and a fine one, I had made up my mind to it, and now I am set back. I feel as if I were driving a big Percheron and a polo pony. I'm a practical common-sense man, and I don't mind asking practical, common-sense questions. I have done that all my life, and, though I have made a good many people mad, it has always been better for me in the end. Now, would you mind telling me if that young woman is engaged to somebody else, or if you are? Don't get angry. If anybody is angry I ought to be."

I was not in the least offended. There was an impetuous but kindly earnestness about the man which impressed me very agreeably. "It is not on this road at all," and liberties are pleasant rather than otherwise: the major was one of these people.

"I am not engaged," I said with a smile, "and I have no reason to believe that she is."

Maj. Pendallas thrust his hands into his trousers pockets, strolled to the other end of the large room, and then, turning, came back and sat down.

"DO YOU MEAN TO SAY, SIR?"

"I believe," said he, "that the man who lives alone does more thinking to the minute than other people. When she was pouring out the coffee tonight, and you were handing your cup to her, and both of you were laughing about the sugar, I stopped eating and said to myself, 'That is as perfect a match as I ever saw.' And in regard to human beings, it is very seldom that I think that. And now you turn around and tell me that you and she go single."

I could not help laughing at the serious way in which he discussed the subject.

"I am sorry to disappoint you," said I, "but Miss Welden and I are not marrying people. For myself, I cannot afford matrimony."

"That 's what I once thought," he said, and for 35 years I have regreated that I was foolish enough to think so."

It was plain that my host was a man of nervous temperament. He could not sit still while considering this subject, evidently of deep interest to him. He now rose, folded his arms and looked at me steadily for fully a minute. As he gazed at me his eyes seemed to grow brighter and larger.

"It was my intention to make a business proposition to you, founded on what you and Miss Welden said about this part of the country and how much you liked it. I considered it one of the happiest thoughts I had ever had."

"What was it?" I asked, a good deal amused, but careful not to show it. "I shall be glad to hear whether I can accept it or not."

"All right," said the major, seating himself with decision, "you shall have it. I will make the proposition in the commonsense, straightforward manner in which I intended to make it. For over two months I have been kicking and fuming at being obliged to live here in this lonely house. Tonight I said to myself, over and over again: 'What would I give, if these two would eat all their meals with me; would come here and live in this house.' And then I said, 'Why shouldn't they?' He's a landscape painter, and they would want to live somewhere in the country, and are not likely to find any place more beautiful than this. Now perhaps that's just what they want, and what they are looking for, and the best thing you can do is to make them the offer without loss of time. While I was thinking of this my spirits went up to about a hundred in the shade, but when you told me you were not an engaged couple, down they went, I don't know how far.

"What did you intend to offer?" I asked.

"Offer!" he said, "everything. I intended to put at your disposal, as soon after you married as you pleased, the handsomest room in the house, second floor front, with a beautiful flower garden in summer, directly under the side window.

"I would have given you the run of this house, reading-room and everything, and made you feel at home. If the lady is a musician I would have bought a new piano; if you are fond of driving or riding, my stables should have been at your service. I have to pay men to exercise the horses, and it would be a favor to me to have you do some of it.

"Moreover, I have a carriage house on the other side of my garden which I do not use, and I would have fitted it up as a studio for you, with a big north light and all conveniences. Then again if you would have liked to come here to spend your honeymoon, I would have vacated the place for a month, and let you have it all to yourselves.

"For the accommodations I should have offered you I should have charged you no more than what your living would cost me. Certainly not over $7 a week, each. For the rent of my studio, I should have asked you one landscape painting every year."

I was most cheerfully impressed by the project thus laid before me.

"My dear sir," I exclaimed, "you are generous indeed. Will you make me the same offer if I bring some other lady here as my wife?"

"No, sir," cried the major, striking his knee with his broad hand; "no, sir, I will not. I know all about Miss Welden, and I have formed a great fancy for her. I will run no risk with outside and unknown women."

So saying he rose abruptly to his feet, walked to a window, raised the shade, and looked out into the night.

I remained gazing into the cheerful fire. The enthusiasm of this man had had a powerful effect upon me.

I was actually thinking what a delightful thing it would be to marry Miss Welden.

It was not the first time that this thought had come into my mind, but it had always been promptly expelled. As I told my host, I was not a marrying man—at least I considered that my financial circumstances gave me no right to be one.

But now the state of affairs seemed to be entirely changed. So far as pecuniary considerations were concerned, there was no reason why I should not be married tomorrow, and the perception of this fact set me in a glow. The major now returned to the fire.

"Hello," he cried, "your face looks as if you were getting converted."

"It may be that I am," I said; "you are a powerful preacher."

He stepped quickly towards me, and clapped his hands upon my shoulder.

"Now," he said, "you are on the right road; don't hesitate; don't look to the right or the left; don't stop to consider; don't reason, but go straight ahead, and ask that young woman to be your wife. The fact that you are beginning to feel converted shows that you want her, and, indeed, I should have a very small opinion of you if you didn't want her. Ask her tomorrow morning; ask her here in this house before you go into that crowd of Dollivers, where you will have no chance at all. I'll see to it that you have every chance here."

"Major," said I, rising, "I have the greatest mind in the world to do it. You have put before me opportunities which I did not suppose to exist. You have stirred up feelings in me that I thought were long ago conquered and quieted. You have—"

"Now, my dear boy," interrupted the major, "don't say another word. Go to your room while you are in this mood, go to bed and go to sleep. Don't consider this or that or any other thing. Keep your mind on the one fact that you are going to propose to Miss Welden in the morning. Above all, don't think about me. Don't imagine that perhaps I am not going to suit your fancies. I will give you my word that if I don't suit, or can't make myself suit, I'll clear out. I'll take the risk of all that."

"Very good," said I, "I'll go to my room, for it is past country bedtime, and I'll keep my mind on the subject you have brought up before me. But what of that regent's punch you were going to brew?"

"Not a drop, sir; not a drop," exclaimed the major. "When men want cheering up, and have nothing to do afterward, a glass of punch on a winter night is a very good thing, but in a case like this we want clear heads. Anybody can determine to marry almost anybody if he drinks enough punch.

"When I set out to drive a pair of horses in a storm or in a cold, chilly night I never touch a drop of spirits, no matter how much I may feel that I need warming up. At such times I want to be sharpened, not comforted. But when I get safely home I mix myself a glass of something hot. Making up your mind at this time is much more important than driving any sort of horses in any kind of weather. The punch can wait until tomorrow, and if things turn out all right I'll brew something out of the common, I assure you."

In my bedroom that night I gave no time to deliberation. Before I bade the major good-night I had made up my mind to propose to Miss Welden.

CHAPTER II.

I was downstairs before breakfast the next morning, and I met the major just coming in from a visit to his stables.

"Merry Christmas!" he cried, "and isn't this a glorious day—sun bright and sky clear? But the snow is about a foot deep on the level, and nobody knows how deep in the drifts. I have a Canadian in my employment who walks on snowshoes, and I have sent him across the country to the Dollivers to tell them where you are, and let them know that you will be there in the course of the afternoon.

"I'll send out some men with a double team of oxen and a snowplough to break the road, and after luncheon I'll drive you over myself. In the meantime, how are you going to spend the morning, sir?"

I laughed as I gazed into his earnest countenance.

"I am going to try to break a road into the region of matrimony," I replied.

The major's face shone like the morning sun.

"You're sound as a dollar," he exclaimed. "After breakfast, you two shall have the house to yourselves. I'll carry off Mrs. Bardsley and three of them to the Christmas present business in the big barn. I suppose you can get through in an hour?"

"Oh, yes," I answered, "probably in less time."

The major was now called off, and I strolled into the reading-room to look again at my picture. The room was full of the morning light, and as I turned to the wall on which my landscape hung, I stood with eyes and mouth wide open. The paper on the wall was one designed by Clara Welden.

I remember when she was working on it in her studio. There was a tendril running through it which I had suggested.

I clapped my hands and felt like bursting out with a shout of pure enjoyment, but I refrained myself. The breakfast bell rang, and, as I went out, I closed the door behind me.

Miss Welden came down refreshed and lovely, and as we exchanged the Christmas salutations I almost felt guilty, in thinking of the conspiracy which we two men had hatched up against her, but I did not in the least swerve from my purpose.

It was about an hour afterward, when Miss Welden and I were sitting before a blazing fire in the parlor that I declared my love for her, that I asked her to be my wife, and in the ardor which increased as I spoke, I told her everything. I laid before her the whole glowing picture which Maj. Pendallas had painted for me.

When I began to speak she looked at me in a quizzical way, as if she were amused at the sudden out-cropping of my passion, but afterwards she began to listen with interest, as if it were due to me to give serious consideration to a matter which I urged so warmly, odd as it might be that I happened to be urging it just then. But when I told her what the major had been talking about, her face flushed with indignation.

"It is a shame," she exclaimed, "that that man should discuss me in such a way. What right has he to meddle with my affairs, or give advice concerning me? If I can do it, I will leave this house this instant."

"You cannot do it," I said, "and I beg you will restrain your anger until I explain the case. Maj. Pendallas takes a great interest in me on account of my work. You remember what he said at breakfast about my picture. He has taken—"

"I don't care anything about his interest in you," she interrupted. "I am thinking about myself. He has no right to take any sort of interest in me—to discuss me. It is the most unwarrantable thing, the most—"

"Please do not say anything more against him," I implored. "I first want you to look at my picture. It is one of the few you have not seen."

"I don't want to see anything he owns," she said sharply.

"But I beg of you to come and look at this, because I painted it. You may never have another chance, and I very much want you to see it."

She had a kind heart, and, angry as she was, she accompanied me to the reading-room. As we stood before the picture, her eyes wandered away from it and over the wall. Then she turned and looked at me, and I looked at her, but said nothing.

"Do you suppose," she asked presently, "that he knew I designed this paper?"

"I am positive he does not," I replied, "for if he had known it he would certainly have mentioned it to me, and that is almost impossible that he should know it."

"It is wonderful," she said, in a softer tone, "what do you make of it?"

"I make this," I replied, "the soul of that man is in sympathy with yours and with mine. The things we do touch his tastes and his sensibilities. He covers his wall with your paper, and he hangs my picture upon it. He does not know either of us, but his soul is in sympathy with us. I think you can hardly say that he has no right to take an interest in you."

She looked at me and smiled.

"That is all very pretty," she said, "but rather sentimental."

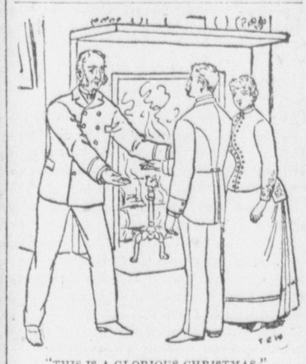
"Not a bit too much so," I exclaimed. "Clara, I think you cannot any longer be angry with our host, and having set him aside, will you not consider me?"

"And consent to be a background to your work," she asked. There was a bright sparkle in her eye, which made me feel justified in gently closing the door.

When Maj. Pendallas returned from the big barn, where according to his custom he had been making Christmas presents to all his people, he found Clara and me in the parlor.

He approached us in a somewhat hesitating way, and as I looked at him I could see an expression on his countenance which looked like a fear that he had come back before I had gotten through with the business of the morning, or perhaps, before I had begun it.

But as we both rose to meet him, I still holding Clara's hand, all doubt vanished from his handsome, honest, weather-browned face.



"THIS IS A GLORIOUS CHRISTMAS."

"I know it," he cried, as he looked from one to the other of us; "I know it. You needn't tell me anything," and he stretched out a hand to each of us. "This is a glorious Christmas," he said, "a glorious Christmas." It was plain he wanted to say a good deal, but could not find words, but Clara allowed no embarrassing silence.

"I have been very angry with you, major," she said, with the kindest of smiles upon her still slightly flushed face. He looked at her inquiringly.

"It was because you were making all sorts of arrangements for me without my knowing a word about them."

"Oh, that was because he didn't understand about the wall paper," I said, "if he had known about that—"

"About what?" exclaimed Maj. Pendallas.

We two laughed, and then we took him into the reading-room. When all was explained to him he exclaimed: "Upon my word!" and then, with his hands thrust deep into the pockets of his sort coat, he turned about and deliberately gazed upon the four walls of the room.

"Truly," he cried, "I can't take it in. To think that the two years I have been sitting in this room, surrounded by these warm, bright, delicate colors, the soft flowers of spring; these soft leaves and these graceful spirals; this general impression of blossomy air, and then to think that you did it—I can't comprehend it.

"Why, I'll tell you, madam, when I went with my niece to a great city store, where they had thousands of patterns of wall paper, I picked out this one in ten minutes, and although there were a half-dozen others she fancied, I would have none but this for my reading-room. 'It is the flowers and air of spring,' I said, 'and I want to have it always around me.' I thought I liked you, madam, on account of what I had heard of you, and because of looking at you, and listening to you, but that wasn't all—no, that wasn't all."

There was a moisture in Clara's eye as she held out her hand to him.

"It is most marvellous and most charming," I said, "and I can see only one objection to the state of affairs—the picture should have been Clara's and the background mine."

"Not a bit of it," exclaimed the major, "the picture can be taken down, it can be stolen—lots of things can happen to it; and it occupies only a little space, after all, but that beautiful wall is there, and it is here, and all around us, and here it will stay. It will last out my lifetime, and if any accident happens to it I've got a lot more of it upstairs."

A servant now entered with a letter which had been brought over from the Dollivers by the man on snowshoes.

It was written to Clara, and she read it to us. Our friends were evidently overjoyed that we had not remained in the city, as they had supposed, and that we would soon be with them.

They insisted that Maj. Pendallas should come over with us and spend the night. They had a large party of friends at the house and were having a jolly time.

"Oh, I'll go," said the major; "I intended to go, anyway; but as to jolly times, the times they are having there are no more to compare with what we are having here than an ashman's hoss is fit for in a three-mile heat with my colt Sapling. But we'll help to make them jolly.

"I'll take over the big silver punch bowl, that I won four years ago, and have not used yet, for I have never had people enough here to make it worth while. We'll christen the bowl on this happy day, and you, madam, shall have the first glass out of it.

"And now," continued the host looking from the one to the other, "before we do any more or say any more, or think of anything else, I want you to tell me this; are you two going to accept my proposition and coming to live with me?" I did not say anything about winter time, because that may be asking too much, but in the time of the year you would want to live in the country, anyway."

"My dear major," said Clara, we have been talking about your proposition, and I don't see how we can help accepting it."

"Good," cried the major, "good, better, best. I remarked before that this is a glorious Christmas, and I repeat the statement. Look you, the sun is beaming out of doors almost as brightly as we are beaming in here.

"There is a broad path out to the stables, and I want to show you a sorrel mare with the most beautiful tail and mane you ever saw. I am going to have her put into training to carry a lady, and she is to be at your service, madam, whenever you want her; and as for you, sir, there are my stables. And if a beautiful country and the horses help to make people happy, I think you will have no fault to find."

Early in the afternoon the major drove us over to the Dollivers behind a pair of magnificent Cleveland bays. The grand action and spirit of the powerful animals, fired by the delight of being out of doors on this sparkling winter day, would have made Clara tremble, she said, under ordinary circumstances, but with the major holding the reins she felt as safe as if she were dashing through the white-caps with an old Cape Cod skipper at the helm.

There was a grand old Christmas time at the Dolliver house. Our hostess, who was soon informed of what had happened in the morning, urged that our engagement should be made known, and when the punch bowl was christened, and the first cupful of the major's wonderful brew was presented by him to Clara, there was an outburst of congratulations which deeply stirred the hearts of three of us.

"And now," said Maj. Pendallas, "let us drink the health of the blessed storm of Christmas eve 1880."

And we drank it.

[THE END.]

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NAPOLEON'S CHAIR.

A Relic of the Meeting Between the Emperor and Bismarck After Sedan.

[St. Louis Republic.]

Among the many curious and historical mementoes with which the Bismarck Museum of Schoenhausen is replete, none attracts more attention than the chair of Donchery, occupied by Napolen III. during the negotiations between Prince Bismarck and himself after the famous battle of Sedan, the Fortress of the Ardennes, and the centre point of the most disastrous conflict of the Franco-German war.

It was here that the emperor, surrounded by 39 generals, 230 staff officers, 2600 officers and an army of 83,000 men, was forced to capitulate on Sept. 2, 1870.

Having been called to the throne of France by the same people who forced him to abdicate and established the republic immediately after his capitulation, the step from one of the proudest thrones of Europe to the exceedingly plain and commonplace chair of straw seems scarcely less pathetic than his great ancestor's isolation at St. Helena, after revelling in the gayeties of the merriest city of the universe.

The chair is an ordinary, straw-covered affair, rather worse for wear and of an old-fash oned type. It is encased in a wooden box and accompanied by a documentary tablet stat ng that Baldouin Schwarz of Cologne bought the chair and donated it afterwards to the Bismarck Museum.

Her Place Supplied.

[Judge.]

Tomdik—I suppose you were very lonely the month your wife spent at her mother's."

Hojack—Oh, no. She left the parrot at home.

Shocked at the Evidence.

[Puck.]

Judge—Well, officer, who is this person, and what is she charged with?

Officer—Sare, it's the "magnetic girl," your honor, and she's charged with electricity.

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It is published **twice** a month, has 16 large pages, and is finely printed on cream-tinted paper, illustrated with many fine engravings. It is a **Practical Household Journal** of rare literary excellence, every page teeming with good things for mother and daughter. It is a repository of helpful advice for women in every sphere of life; in fact, all branches of household economy that can possibly come within the good housewife's province are ably treated under the following departments:

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Eight Regular Editors and Scores of Eminent Writers.

SIZE OF PICTURE WE SEND, 21 by 28 INCHES

DESCRIPTION OF THE PAINTING.

The scene chosen for the painting is the "Judgment Hall" in the palace of Pilate, and the hour "early in the morning." Around the Governor the priests are gathered, and the high priest, Caiaphus, is accusing Christ and demanding his death. The proud and furious bigot is all alive with excitement. There is a majesty about his nose, the consciousness of power in his look and gesture, and something of dignity in the superb audacity with which he draws Pilate's attention to the execrations of the mob (who are crying out "Crucify him!"), as expressive of the national will which the Governor is bound to respect, at the same time insinuating that to let this man go will be treason to Cæsar, as well as a violation of the Jewish law which demands the prisoner's death for "making himself the Son of God." Pilate is yielding to the clamor, while his conscience, aided by his wife's message, warning him not to condemn that righteous man, is protesting in tones which make him tremble.

THE CENTRAL FIGURE,

And the most impressive of all, is Christ himself, clad in white, with flowing hair and bound wrists. He stands alone, in the simple majesty of his own peaceofulness, without sign or symbol, save his individual greatness. A heavenly submission is on his face.

Received the picture "Christ Before Pilate." I wouldn't part with it for a **Hundred Dollars.** J. P. HARTH, Wheeling, Ill.

We are delighted with the picture "Christ Before Pilate," and if I could not get another I would not take **$10.00** for it. MRS. J. A. MILLER, Concord, N.H.

I have an oil painting that cost me $25.00 and it is no better than "Christ Before Pilate. DANIEL B. ROBINSON, Elk Creek, Pa.

A Companion to Christ Before Pilate.

MUNKACSY'S CHRIST ON CALVARY.

The matchless excellence of our reproduction of "Christ Before Pilate," and its truthful likeness to the original painting, agreeably surprised those who secured copies, and the demand has been unprecedented. Thousands of letters of approbation were received, many of the writers expressing a desire that we should also reproduce the great companion piece, "Christ on Calvary." Although a compliance with these requests involved an expenditure of thousands of dollars, a corps of experienced artists were engaged for many months in engraving the stones. No expense or labor has been spared to accomplish the very best results possible, ensuring a picture equal to that of "Christ before Pilate," as a work of art.

THE DEATH OF CHRIST, THE REDEEMER,

Is the leading feature, toward which all others tend. Golgotha, the highest point on Mount Calvary, is where the eventful scene takes place. The crosses of Christ and the two thieves, the holy women and St. John at the foot of the Redeemer's cross, are placed to the right-hand side of the painting. The high priests and Pharisees are turning homeward to the left, whilst from the background in the middle the curious crowd press onward. They are checked by the spear of a Roman soldier. The cross rises high above everything else. The Redeemer, whom fanaticism and vindictive wrath have nailed to the cross, shines as if illuminated by an interior light; there is a noble symmetry in his body, and his face, furrowed by pain, is resplendent with heavenly love.

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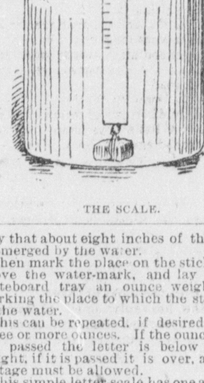
Address, THE WEEKLY GLOBE, Boston, Mass.

CHEAP LETTER-SCALE.

How a Home-Made Article Can Easily be Obtained.

A very effective letter-scale can be made cheaply from the most primitive materials. A piece about 12 inches long is cut from a broomstick, and to one end of it is nailed with a tack a piece of card-board. A small weight, says the Post-Dispatch, a stone or a piece of metal is attached to the other end. Then a glass with a wide mouth is procured, a preserving glass, for instance, filled with water, and the weight adjusted in such a way that about eight inches of the stick is submerged by the water.



THE SCALE.

Then mark the place on the stick directly above the water-mark, and lay upon the pasteboard tray an ounce weight, again marking the place to which the stick sinks in the water.

This can be repeated, if desired, to two, three or more ounces. If the ounce mark is not passed the letter is below the rate weight, if it is passed it is over, and extra postage must be allowed.

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During the next three months The Weekly Globe wishes to place a sample copy in every home in every town of the U. S. It will pay a liberal commission to every one who will distribute sample copies and secure subscribers. Send for sample copies and agents' cash commission.

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If every reader of this issue, whether or not he or she is a subscriber, will send a list of 10 or a dozen names of persons in his or her neighborhood, THE WEEKLY GLOBE will be thankful. We will send a sample copy free to each. Write names on a postal card and address THE WEEKLY GLOBE, Boston, Mass.

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Boston Weekly Globe.

TUESDAY, DEC. 22, 1891.

Globe Pocket Calendar.

DECEMBER 1891

Su.	M.	T.	W.	Th.	F.	S.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Moon's Phases

1 A. M. 6.45

8 P. M. 0.13

15 A. M. 7.53

23 A. M. 0.39

30 P. M. 10.20

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THE DAILY GLOBE—One copy per month, 75 cents; per year, $6.00. Postage prepaid.

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THE GLOBE NEWSPAPER CO.,

242 Washington Street.....Boston

Entered at the Post Office, Boston, Mass., as second class matter.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

THE PAPER FOR FARMERS.

A special department for farmers, entitled Co-operative Farming, will hereafter appear every week. It is another feature illustrative of THE WEEKLY GLOBE'S purpose to make not only an indispensable family journal, but a family journal so comprehensive in features for all members of the family that it will combine, in one low-priced weekly, what readers cannot now secure without taking two or three weeklies.

You will find all the reading matter you need in one weekly in THE WEEKLY GLOBE.

Examine carefully the features of this issue.

LA GRIPPE AGAIN.

The third annual appearance of la grippe is announced in somewhat sensational terms, but upon reading the calm comments of the doctors in various sections there appears to be no occasion whatever for anything like a scare.

All agree that whatever may be the cause or character of the present visitation, it comes in a decidedly mild form, and the tendency to bronchial and lung congestion, which has been the most alarming feature of previous visitations, is generally absent.

One of the leading physicians of New York remarked that but for the fact that everybody is thinking of the grip the prevailing symptoms of physical disorder might have been passed by as merely due to the abnormal weather we have been having.

None the less does it behoove people to be prudent, to wear warm clothing, and to be careful as to their drink and diet. The climatic conditions of the past few years, which show signs of becoming permanent, must inevitably produce a new set of physical ailments and call for changed regulations in the conduct of our physical life.

Of all microbes the "scare" microbe is always the most dangerous. Fear is the most potent ally of disease, and the thing which most easily becomes epidemic.

Boston seems thus far to be exempt from la grippe. But whatever comes let us avoid panic and never say die. This is more than half the battle in all human affairs.

NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW.

Subscribers will greatly oblige THE WEEKLY GLOBE by renewing their subscriptions this month. This will save the resetting of their names, which otherwise must be done, as all subscriptions expiring with the year will be discontinued. When a name has to be reset, the rush of January business may cause an irregularity in the receipt of the first January issue.

Of course you will renew, for THE WEEKLY GLOBE will be indispensable to you and all your friends in 1892.

LAST YEAR'S GIFTS.

Poets are fond of making unreserved statements, and the fact that their graceful words are generally accepted without contradiction may, possibly, be accounted for on the grounds of poetic license. As the poet sees the conditions which incite or excite his verses, doubtless he makes his frequent broad and much-comprehending assertions with a solid substratum of verity. The love which never is repeated; the home which is never re-established; the thoughts and so forth of "a day that is dead and can never come back to"—someone; but which next season we find being repeated in another style of phrase, are instances of the poet's trifling uncertainty about the co-relation of his present and his future.

So the oft-repeated idea that last year's flowers will not bloom again, while, in absoluteness of condition it may be a truth, for real usefulness cannot be considered as an important factor in our scheme of happiness. The same flowers do not grow again; but like flowers do and upon the same stalk which held the departed, poetically-mourned blossoms.

However, at Christmastide, there is a glorious chance for the very same blossoms to bloom a second time—the flowers of last year's Christmas branch—and in a new soil these love-bearing tokens can bring perhaps even more joy, more childlike rapture than on their first blossoming, when they bud and bloom a second time. In these days when every child of every moderately-conditioned home, at each Christmas festival, receives a dozen or two of toys and keepsakes, it must happen that between the last and the coming festival many of those gifts have become practically valueless in their original soil. They have served their happy purposes and have made the young recipients glad and content with his—then they have been shunted to the garret or the catch-all closet and the dust of the summer and autumn months are upon them. They need transplanting.

These "old" toys would be very precious and infinitely new to hundreds of poorer children in every community and of what a Xmas tree they could be the joyful fruit in some humble street or lowly alley! The original owners or recipients would never miss them or, better still, could be taught practically a noble Christmas lesson by being made the purveyors and conveyors of these doubly fruitful gifts. The new gifts in the happier, more abundantly provided homes will so fill the little ones' minds that the last years' doll or the Noah's ark, with a fly and a camel wanting, will not be missed at all, and the new receivers will never know the lack of the fly or the humped-back prototype of the desert ship.

Beyond all this there can be to many a mother a deep and tender solace if she will but think a bit, if from the storage of the saddest hours of this life, the treasured mementoes of a child's too short blessing of this earth, she can take some gift and carry it, as a boon of joy, to a *living* child in remembrance of one departed. There will come from such a mission a flood of light which will seem to place within its glory, side by side with the Christ-child, whose natal day all Christendom celebrates, the image of the one her heart has never let depart, and whose place in the home circle has never been vacant in the mother's mind, albeit the loving touch, the sweet voice, the tender look are absent.

Last year's gifts can make this year's Christmas happy, merry, glorious, if they can be well distributed.

NATH. CHILDS.

REPUBLICAN MORAL DECAY.

It is said that QUAY is very confident of succeeding himself as United States Senator from Pennsylvania. He feels this confidence in spite of the most damaging charges that have ever been made against the character of any American official.

This confidence upon his part is doubtless well grounded. He is conscious of the standard of political morality held by Pennsylvania Republicans, and that it is exceedingly difficult to do anything so wicked as to offend that standard. It is not necessary for a Republican senator from Pennsylvania to be either an able or an honest man.

A rumor, apparently well founded, comes from Washington that STEPHEN B. ELKINS will be Mr. PROCTOR'S successor as Secretary of War. But the country really has no right to expect much moral fastidiousness on the part of an administration that retains that smirking and sanctimonious humbug, WANAMAKER.

The flamboyant FORAKER still continues to flaunt himself in Ohio, and now leads JOHN SHERMAN in the senatorial race. This man is known to the whole country as a cheap and sensational demagogue, and if half the reports are true about him, he is even worse.

A party that will honor such a trinity of disreputables as QUAY, ELKINS and FORAKER must necessarily be a party without moral instincts. The very fact that such men are brought forward and honored shows that this party, which everybody admits started out with high ideals, has fallen into senile depravity. The signs of its decay and fall are evident to a cursory observer and require no astute GIBBON to discover them.

The Republican party is in the sere and yellow leaf.

PRESIDENT HARRISON'S PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

In his recent message to Congress President HARRISON advocates the adoption of a constitutional amendment providing that all the States shall hereafter choose presidential electors on a general ticket. His idea, of course, is that the example set by Michigan, which has availed herself of her constitutional right to order the choice of her presidential electors in 1892 to be made by congressional districts, should not be followed by other States. To that end he would prohibit, by an amendment to the Constitution, the choice of electors by congressional districts in any State, and compel every State to choose them in the same way on one general ticket.

Now, while there are many and excellent reasons why all the States should vote in some uniform manner at presidential elections, it is by no means clear that the general ticket system is the best method, nor that the district method is not a great deal better.

President HARRISON is at all events not historically accurate when he says, in his recent message, that "all the States have, acting freely and separately, determined that the choice of electors by a general ticket is the wisest and safest method." The historical fact is that for the first quarter of a century the most enlightened and patriotic statesmen of this country made earnest efforts to procure the adoption of the district system of choosing presidential electors in all the States.

As a correspondent of the New York Sun reminds us, the Senate of the United States agreed to a proposed constitutional amendment establishing the district system by a two-thirds vote of 22 to 9 on Feb. 18, 1813. The Legislatures of North Carolina, Massachusetts, Virginia, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New Jersey and New York passed resolutions in favor of the district system. The United States Senate again on Feb. 4, 1819, and on Jan. 27, 1820, voted in favor of the district system. In the House of Representatives a majority vote was obtained, but not the required two-thirds.

In the presidential election of 1824 eight States chose their electors by districts, six States chose them by votes of their Legislatures, and only a minority of ten States voted for their electors on a general ticket. After that the States, one after another, abandoned the choice by district elections and legislative votes, until at length they all came to vote for presidential electors on a general ticket. But this was not brought about, as President HARRISON'S language implies, by the voluntary and deliberate determination of every State, but by their reluctant acquiescence in a method, which, being adopted in a large number of States, was adopted in all the rest as a matter of expediency and practical politics.

No American statesman, except President HARRISON, has, we think, ever publicly advocated the general ticket system of choosing presidential electors on its merits and as a matter of principle. HAMILTON, JEFFERSON, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, MADISON, WEBSTER, STORY, VAN BUREN and BENTON are all on record in favor of the district system, a return to which by Michigan has now reopened the question for discussion and action.

It is undeniable that the general ticket system works injustice on a large scale, and practically disfranchises minorities, numbering millions of voters, in all sections of the country. Five New England States, for example, gave CLEVELAND nearly a quarter of a million votes in 1884, but not a single electoral vote. In the five States of Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, CLEVELAND received nearly 2,000,000 votes, without getting one electoral vote.

Of course it can be truly said that these injustices were balanced by injustices in other States, those of the South, for example, where large numbers of Republicans voted for BLAINE in 1884, without being able to give him any electoral votes. But the morality of balancing one wrong with another is always unsound, and in this matter we believe it would be far better if the people of every State were counted somewhere about as they voted, which would be done under the district system, and cannot be done under the general ticket system.

The unit rule is bad, whether employed to gag minorities in national conventions or to wipe them out in national elections. The general ticket system of choosing presidential electors amounts to the wiping out of the minority, no matter how large, in every State. This results in the pernicious practice of discounting the result in a majority of the States in advance, and centring the contest on a few doubtful States; and that has done more to invite corruption and fraud than anything else.

To restore the district system would tend to break up sectional solidities, do away with the pivotal States plan of campaign, with its strong incentives to corrupt and fraudulent practices, and give to the minority in every State a natural and wholesome interest in every national election by allowing it a fair share of representation. On the whole, therefore, if we are to have a constitutional amendment on this subject, we hope it will be one of exactly the contrary character to that which President HARRISON has just recommended to Congress.

A CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

This issue is notable for its Christmas features. FRANK R. STOCKTON, the most original and popular short-story writer, has a characteristic work written expressly for THE GLOBE,—"Major Pendallis; a Christmas Love Story."

Christmas themes are treated by a number of well-known writers.

"The New Xmas Dinner," by the author of "American Housekeeping," will be valued by every woman. Other topics specially interesting to women are "Luxuries in New York Society," "Home Decoration" by Delaware, and "Cabinet Girls" by Mrs. MCGUIRK.

The political news is important. Read how ELKINS' appointment is regarded, the statement of CLEVELAND and HILL'S position and CRISP'S selection of committees with Mr. MILLS left off.

The general news of the week is of uncommon interest. Naval preparations to force Chili to come to terms engross public attention.

The doings of Congress are reported in full.

Now is the time to renew.

Now is the time to subscribe.

Now is the time to form a club.

"LAND BILL" ALLEN.

There died, almost unknown, in an Ohio poorhouse, the other day, a man who, though he had helped more people to homes than any other man in the United States and spent his fortune in doing it, himself died homeless and almost without friends, at the age of 83.

This man was GEORGE WHEATON ALLEN, better known as "Land Bill" ALLEN, for he was the originator of the Homestead Act.

Every farm that has been entered under the homestead act dates back to him. Years ago he had lands and fortune, but, seeing hundreds and thousands of people without homes, while Uncle Sam had vast expanses of idle land awaiting tillage, he could not rest contented.

Up and down the nation he went. He appealed to Congress, he visited Legislatures in the far West, driving his own team and paying his own expenses. Success finally crowned his efforts, and the land bill became a law.

Having accomplished this he next set to work in behalf of property exemption for debtors in Ohio whom he had seen hounded into prisons by relentless creditors. This evil he finally saw abolished, but his fortune was exhausted, and seven years ago the sheriff sold the little farm which was all that remained to him, and a few months ago he was sent to the county infirmary.

When one sees $50,000 and $100,000 monuments scattered here and there it is hard to escape the reflection that there is but slight consideration for equity in the dispensation of the world's gratitude. But the day may yet come when the State of Ohio, which saw this man die in a poorhouse, will possibly think him as worthy of a monument as JAMES A. GARFIELD. Assuredly few graves are better worthy of honor than that of GEORGE WHEATON ALLEN.

A CLUB IN EVERY TOWN

is needed to push THE WEEKLY GLOBE and Democratic principles, and it is now just the time to form clubs and get ready for active political work.

The Democratic party expects every man to do his duty.

THE WEEKLY GLOBE wishes to have a large club in every town where it has any subscribers—particularly in New England, where hard work is to be done between now and the presidential election.

It wishes a club in every town where it has no subscribers.

THE WEEKLY GLOBE must rely upon its friends to form clubs.

It is one of the easiest things in the world to form a club, and your little son or daughter can do so outside school hours, if you have no spare time.

All you have to do to begin with is to send a postal card for free sample copies and agents' rates.

The cash commission is large and pays big profits.

THE COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS.

The fear of those who imagine that this government is becoming rapidly "foreignized" may be easily quieted by a reference to the make-up of the Congress which has just been opened.

The Fifty-second Congress consists of 420 members. Of the 88 senators 46 are Republicans and 42 Democrats. Of the 332 representatives, 236 are Democrats, 87 Republicans and 9 Farmers' Alliance.

The foreign element in this entire body is quite inconsiderable, and is relatively less than in probably any other national legislature in the world. Greece furnishes one member, Norway two, Sweden one, Canada four, England four, Ireland nine, Germany three, New Brunswick three and Scotland one.

It thus transpires that out of a Congress of 420 members only 28 are of foreign birth or parentage. This may certainly be regarded as a very highly "Americanized" body, and the most timid may rest assured that the country is safe and in no danger of being captured by foreign influence.

But as to State nativity, it is somewhat surprising how many of the representatives of particular States were born in other States. In the cases of some States more than a majority of their congressmen were born in other States than those which they represent at Washington, and comparatively few States have an entirely native body of representatives in Congress.

These facts offer something of an argument on the side of those who believe that the House of Representatives, like the British House of Commons, should be elected by constituencies for which any American citizen might stand, rather than by districts, which choice is confined to residents of the States supposed to be represented.

KEEPING A DIARY.

There used to be a good old-fashioned custom in New England of keeping a diary of the weather and the day's personal events from year to year.

The only way the old-time farmer had of sizing up the weather was to refer to his diaries or the stacks of Old Farmer's Almanacs on the mantel. Now the weather bureau takes charge of the elements, and the good old custom of keeping a diary seems to have almost entirely gone out.

Once in a while, however, an old farmer gets out his diaries when the weather-wise young man of the period gets to talking too glibly and shows up a few surprises. "Don't be so sure that winter is played out in New England," said an old Connecticut farmer the other day, as he reached up for his own and his father's diaries, going back into the last century.

As shown by these diaries there have been periods of mild winters back as far as the records go. There was such a period towards the end of the last century. The winters of 1799 and 1800 were so warm that the grass was green in December in New England valleys and the cattle were turned out to pasture. There was no frost in the ground and farmers dug holes and repaired their fences in their shirt sleeves. In fact it was uncomfortably warm.

The winter of 1866, as many can remember, was marked by a September mildness, and people strolled about without overcoats or wraps on Christmas day.

As the old man had it: "New England ain't going to get fooled out of her winter. You just wait a bit."

One swallow does not make a summer, nor does one cycle of mild winters prove that nature has permanently revised the climatic order of things. When the old farmers pull down their diaries these things are made evident.

The old-time New England boy did not get many Christmas presents, but on New Year's day the old man usually handed him a brand new diary and commanded him to keep a daily record of the weather and of the day's industry and savings. The custom was a good one, and might be usefully revived in these latter days. Leisure time can be spent in many worse and much less useful ways than in the daily booking up of a diary.

CHRISTMAS WEEK SUGGESTIONS.

When the puzzle of selecting Christmas gifts is solved, that of selecting a suitable Christmas dinner remains. A few scores of disquisitions on mince pie, pastry and puddings are found in the Christmas supplements of the popular journals, but the limitations of the human digestive apparatus seem to have been quite overlooked for the time.

Conspiracies against the human stomach seem to be allowable at certain festive seasons, and there is a feeling that there will be time enough between Christmas and New Year's day to tone up and be ready for new resolutions.

Among those who appear in the arena of discussion touching this matter of Christmas dinners are the vegetarians. Mince pie, they say, with or without a seasoning of strong drink, is a mocker, and pastry is a delusion and a snare.

Here is a Christmas dinner menu offered by a popular vegetarian journal:

Tomato soup.	Lentil soup.
Aunt Susan's vegetable turkey.	Cranberry sauce.
Potato pie.	Salsify pie.
Rice and lentil cutlets.	Cauliflower.
Mashed potatoes.	Sweet potatoes.
Bread plum pudding.	Hard sauce.
Carrot plum pudding.	Cream sauce.
Plain fruit pudding.	Blackberry toast.
Snowflake toast.	Banana salad.
Graham gems.	Cocoanut cakes.
Farina mold.	Guava jelly.
Apples. Grapes.	Oranges. Bananas.
Filberts.	Walnuts.
Raisins and almonds.	

With all due respect for Aunt Susan's "vegetable turkey," one cannot resist the suspicion that it is to a genuine turkey dinner what a hashed up "Americanized" edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica is to a genuine edition. It hasn't the real stuffing in it. It isn't the genuine bird.

"Snowflake toast" and "salsify pie" are doubtless excellent; yet, though they may be just as palatable and far more digestible than plum pudding and mince pie, the average man cannot bring himself to regard them as "straight goods."

The fact is that the people are mightily attached to their traditions. No Christmas home festival quite fills the bill in a well-regulated family, as shown in time-honored picture and song, which does not leave the children with the stomach ache and everybody tired out for three or four days. It is a sort of annual dissipation, in which the gratification realized far more than compensates for the supplementary ordeal of "sobering up."

On, then, with the plum puddings, pastry and mince pie! Christmas comes but once a year, and when it comes we must do the orthodox thing by it.

EDITORIAL POINTS.

According to the Chicago Inter-Ocean, experiments are being made in Germany and this country, to determine "the true economic weight of a hog." The figure generally settled upon is 200 pounds. At this weight a hog is said so be at his best. Still, we have all seen thriving hogs (on two feet) who weighed more.

Everybody will be glad to hear that the veteran CYRUS W. FIELD is on the road to recovery. The blow struck at his honor by his own son was hard indeed to bear, but the old financier will find no lack of sympathy in his troubles, and many a hand will be extended to help him in the new enterprises of the man to whom, more than any one else, the world owes the ocean cable.

The ambitious JONES will never sit in the governor's chair at Albany. That very wide-awake executive, DAVID B. HILL, proposes to keep the place until it is claimed by ROSWELL P. FLOWER. But let not Binghamton's man of weight wholly despair. He will wear a halo of glory next summer when, as colonel of the gallant Sixth who marched through Baltimore, he will hold the post of honor in the great parade of the Grand Army of the Republic in Washington.

The Cherokee Indians have closed a bargain with the government for the sale of $9,000,000 worth of real estate. But Uncle Sam holds the purchase money in trust, as Lo is not a great success as a banker.

MAINE STATE GRANGE.

Committee on Resolutions Takes Advanced Ground on Education.

SKOWHEGAN, Me., Dec. 17.—The business of the State grange was concluded and it adjourned this evening.

The reports of all standing committees made this afternoon were accepted. The committee on resolutions reported taking advanced ground on education, recommending the study of chemistry, botany and natural history in the schools; in favor of all legislation tending to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors for any purpose but mechanical and medicinal; reaffirming the stand taken by the grange last year on taxation and indorsing the action of the grange through this year.

Prof. Rogers of the Maine State College presented the following:

Resolved, That the State grange insists and demands, as a matter of right and justice, that a listing bill, similar to the one before our last Legislature, be enacted into a law, to the end that the constitution of our State be respected and the laws on our statute book enforced.

Big Slice of Prize Money.

NORFOLK, Conn., Dec. 15.—Theodore B. Flegler, an inmate of the Soldiers' Home at Noroton, will soon receive from Washington nearly $30,000 prize money of the late war, due him for valuable services rendered. Mr. Flegler enlisted from Danbury in May, 1864, and was sent on board the Mononsahela, of Admiral Farragut's fleet, comprising the Western Gulf squadron. The fleet engaged in the battle of Mobile bay on April 25, 1865. The squadron captured many prizes, consisting chiefly of blockade runners. According to the rules of the United States one-half of the value goes to the government and the other half to the crews of the vessels making the capture. The most important capture was that of the blockade runner Dashing Wave, loaded with cotton and a large amount of gold, which the Confederacy was trying to ship to England for safety. The division to the crews of the vessels that made the captures has not yet been made, but probably will be within a few weeks.

The Brooklyn Suspension Bridge.

To the Editor of The Globe:

I differ from you in your answer on "Brooklyn Bridge." A is right in his statement. I have ridden over and sailed under the bridge myself several times. As far as I could see, the bridge is suspended from four abutments of masonry built from the bed of the river. CONSTANT READER.

A claimed that he had sailed on both sides of the masonry which supports the bridge. From A's statement one might infer that the masonry is located some distance from the shores. But the bridge is a suspension bridge and has no support in the centre of the river. Towers of granite were erected near each shore, but the space between the New York shore and the tower on that side is now occupied by immense docks, and I think the same is true of the Brooklyn side. All suspension bridges must have towers of some kind. If the banks of the river are abrupt smaller towers will answer the purpose and may be erected on the banks. But both banks of the East river are very receding and the width of the river is so great that the towers were placed a short distance from each shore. The span between these towers is 1595 feet 6 inches. This is one of the largest spans in the world. There is a land span on each side, from each tower to an anchorage on each shore, of 930 feet. There is also an approach on each side, in New York from City Hall sq. to beginning of land span, 1562 feet 6 inches; in Brooklyn, from Sands st. to the beginning of land span, 971 feet. These approaches are supported by granite and brick arches. There are two towers only, each tower being pierced at the height of the floor of the bridge by two arches.—[ED.

"Sure Cure" for Asthma.

To the Editor of The Globe:

Having lately seen many inquiries for some remedy that is good for asthma, and as this disease has become quite prevalent and is growing more so as winter approaches, I send you the following sure cure for it: Kali iodide, 1½ ounces; spirits of etheriz comp., 1 ounce; tr. lobelia, 1 drachm; syrup of wild cherry, 3 ounces; water, add to make 8 ounces. Dose, from 20 drops to 2 teaspoonfuls five times a day. W. A. H. S.

Queen Victoria's Income.

To the Editor of The Globe:

Will you please inform me what salary Queen Victoria gets, and, also, if Nova Scotia and Baffin's bay come within the scope of her authority? N.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria receives annuities as follows: Privy purse, £60,000; salaries of household, £131,260; expenses, £172,500; royal bounty, etc., £13,200; unappropriated, £8,400; total, £385,000. England's possessions in North America include the whole of the northern part of that continent, except Alaska and the small islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. —[ED.

Human and Atomic Intelligence.

To the Editor of The Globe:

In THE GLOBE of Aug. 25, 1886, is a communication in which occurs this passage: "Each atom of matter is intelligent, exercising a choice in the selection of its combinations, and those combinations increasing in intelligence in proportion to their complexity and development. This theory, properly understood, solves more mysteries in nature than any other I know."

My attention has been called to the subject again by reading some speculations of Thomas A. Edison, recently published.

Among the many curious and to me peculiarly interesting things said by Mr. Edison, I find the following: "Every atom has an intelligent power of selection and is always striving to get into harmonious relation with other atoms." And again: "I cannot avoid the conclusion that all matter is composed of intelligent atoms, and that life and mind are merely synonymes for the aggregation of atomic intelligence." He might have said further that every atom being intelligent is susceptible of education; that every change of combination through the exercise of choice is an added experience, resulting in greater knowledge; that the atom under the influence of this acquired information is constantly tending towards more complex and beautiful forms; that man himself is the normal result of countless ages of atomic education.

Further on he says: "Of course there is a source of energy." Did it never occur to him to look to the atom for the source of energy or force? May it not be true that all force (energy) is but the expression of the intelligence of the atom? If so we have the solution of the cause of the many phases in which force manifests itself in the varying degrees of intelligence of the atoms by which force is generated.

Force (energy), therefore, I would define as the expression of the intelligence of matter. Whence it legitimately follows that there are varying degrees of intelligence in force as well as in matter; rapid changes in the combinations of inanimate matter, as in combustion, the action of acids, etc., producing heat, which is a stupid force; the more intelligent action of animate matter producing electricity, a much higher grade of force. That this force is capable of a development of which we have at present no conception I believe, but I cannot follow Mr. Edison when he says: "Perhaps electricity will itself be superseded in time—who knows?"

The psychic force (mind or soul) developed in man, most intelligent and least understood of all, has occupied the attention of the greatest minds in all ages, and is still worthy the profoundest study. A. K. H.

Daniel Webster and the North.

To the Editor of The Globe:

When and where did Daniel Webster die? Also did he turn against the Northern people in time of slavery? T. J. G.

[The Encyclopædia Britannica treats this question as follows: "As the growing intensity of the quarrel over the organization of the Territory (Texas), revealed the depth of the chasm which now yawned between the sections, Webster's standing-ground in American politics disappeared. His 7th of March speech in 1850, which stamped him, in the opinion of many of his former Northern worshippers, as a recreant bidding for Southern votes for the presidency, was really little different from his former words. It was the country that had changed. He was still for the Union as the one controlling consideration, with an equal dislike for the abolitionist and the secessionist, who endangered the Union. . . . Angered at the spirit with which his speech was received, Webster threw all his influence towards driving through the Whig convention of 1852 an indorsement of the compromise of 1850 "in all its parts," including, of course, the fugitive slave act. The result was his own failure to receive the Whig nomination for the presidency, and the downfall of his party. Just before the election he died at his home in Marshfield, Mass., October, 1852.]

Our Citizens Abroad.

1. In answer to queries from several interested, will say that, under the Constitution of the United States, naturalized citizens are entitled to the same protection as native born citizens.

2. The treaty with Italy provides in its second article that "the citizens of each of the high contracting parties shall have liberty to travel in the States and territories of the other, to carry on trade, to hire and occupy houses, etc."

3. The third article provides that "the citizens of each of the high contracting parties shall receive in the States and Territories of the other the most constant protection and security for their persons and property." "They shall, however, be exempt in their respective Territories from compulsory military service, either on land or sea, in the regular forces, or in the national guard, or in the militia; they shall also be exempt from any judicial or municipal office, and from any contribution whatever, in kind or in money, to be levied in compensation for personal services."

Overhanging Fruit Tree.

(1) If the limbs of my neighbor's trees hang over my land must I notify him that I am going to cut off the limbs?

(2) Has he a right to come on my land to pick the fruit that is on my side of fence? N. H. H.

(1) No. (2) Yes.

Lot of Questions.

1. Can a lot in a cemetery be deeded from father to son?

2. Can it be transferred without consent of wife?

3. Is it subject to attachment or seizure for debts of owner?

4. Can it be mortgaged?

5. In event of failure of a man, provided he has a tomb that represents outlay of large sums, is it a part of the assets?

6. Is a cemetery lot (private plot) assessable for taxes?

7. Would same answer to preceding questions apply to tombs and monuments in a cemetery?

LOT OWNER.

1. Yes.
2. No.
3. No.
4. If anyone will take it, yes.
5. Yes.
6. No.
7. Yes.

Arrows for the Conductors.

[Albany Journal.]

Passengers on the lines of the Albany railway today were surprised to observe that the conductors' breasts were decorated with a new device to ensure their honesty. Lately they were provided with small punches with which to punch every ticket received.

Those have been discarded, it seems, for the new instrument, which serves practically the same purpose as the punch. It is an arrow, with a loop at the end of the wire shaft.

The loop is thrust through the buttonhole of the conductors' coat in such a way that the arrow head points outward. The conductor is required as fast as he collects tickets to impale them on the arrow and remove them over the loop at the end of the trip.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

SECRETARY ELKINS.

What Some Politicians Think of the Latest Cabinet Appointment.

What do Republican politicians think of the appointment of Stephen B. Elkins as secretary of war?

Read the following interviews and judge for yourself.

Gen. W. W. Dudley, more familiarly known as "Blocks of Five," who in Boston, said to a GLOBE man: "I'm not in a position to say anything on the subject, but possibly tonight I will have some information from Washington. I'm somewhat surprised at the appointment, because I understood from Mr. Blaine that Mr. Elkins had not the time to give to the position."

"But what is its political significance?" asked THE GLOBE man.

"That phase of the question I don't like to talk about. I'm trying to keep out of politics. If you accomplish anything you are called everything that is unpleasant and unkind, and if you fail in carrying an election you are put down as no good. There's nothing in politics, anyway, when you want to hold office and live off of politics, and neither of these things will I do.

"From a business standpoint I regard the appointment as an excellent one. I can readily see how such an appointment gives rise to considerable speculation."

Collector Beard thought it would be unwise for him to discuss the President's appointments.

Speaker Barrett thought that the appointment of Mr. Elkins hadn't any political significance attached to it. He considered that it was plain that Mr. Blaine and Mr. Harrison understood one another, and that a man could be faithful to the Harrison administration and yet be a strong Blaine man.

"If the convention nominates Mr. Blaine, Mr. Blaine will accept," said Mr. Barrett, "although he will not make any open bid for the nomination."

"Steve Elkins," exclaimed ex-Alderman Jesse Gove. "Why, bless your soul, he is one of the best fellows in existence. I know him well and love him. So would you if you ever met him. He never goes back on a friend. You can bet that he and Mr. Blaine understand each other pretty well.

"Let's see," said Mr. Gove, counting on his fingers. "It's a queer cabinet, isn't it? There's Blaine and Elkins, and Uncle Jerry Rusk isn't very slow in his love for Blaine. Proctor would have to be for him if he is a candidate, and everybody knows where Secretary Tracy stands on Blaine.

"No, sir, you can put it down as strong as you want to that Steve Elkins is as loyal and unswerving as ever in his devotion to Blaine."

Edward B. Callender thought that there was not any political significance in his appointment.

CLEVELAND AND HILL UNITED.

Declared That They Both Favored McMillin for Speaker.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Star, which is very friendly to Mr. Cleveland, says today, in speaking of the extent to which the presidential question was involved in the speakership contest:

"Gentlemen who are in a position to know the truth of the case insist that from first to last Mr. Crisp did all in his power to keep the presidential question out of the contest, and that it was well known by those most interested in it that he would not make common cause with any presidential candidate. The only advantage Gov. Hill had over Cleveland, if he had any, it is said, lies in the fact that he showed good judgment in picking out the winner in the race.

"Mr. Cleveland apparently had no opportunity to make a selection for himself, but had the colors of the loser pinned to his coat against his earnest protest. He repeatedly declared that he had no preferences, that he was taking no part in the contest, and that he would be as well satisfied with the selection of Mr. Crisp as with that of Mr. Mills.

"It is asserted, however, by some one having particular interest in either Mr. Hill or Mr. Cleveland that, odd as it may seem both personally favored the same man, though neither supported him. This man was Mr. McMillin.

"It is the general opinion among politicians here that Mr. Cleveland has suffered somewhat by the association of his name with a defeated candidate."

ALL FOR BLAINE.

Western Men Working Out the Presidential Problem.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—A notable gathering of Republican leaders from all over the West took place today at the Grand Pacific.

What was done at a secret conference which lasted from morning until evening is best known to those who were present. Those present were numerous, but they were decidedly averse to increasing the number of those who know what it was all about.

Those who submitted to interviews during the day talked national politics freely, and the Blaine men appeared to be unopposed. But at night they denied that any such topic as candidates was discussed at the meeting.

Among the most notable men who either took an active part in the deliberations or awaited the results in the corridors were: J. S. Clarkson of Iowa, chairman of the national committee and president of the National League of Clubs; ex-Congressman A. L. Conger, Ohio, member of the national committee; ex-United States Senators Sabin of Minnesota and Spooner of Wisconsin; A. M. Jones, chairman of the Illinois State committee, and Sergeant-at-arms Meek of the national House of Representatives.

The presence during the morning of Emmons Blaine was looked upon by the outsiders as somewhat significant, and the arrival of Gen. Russell Alger from Detroit added to the gossip. Col. Conger, however, assumed all the responsibility for Mr. Blaine's presence, and stated that the latter had called on him upon purely private business. Both Emmons Blaine and Gen. Alger were in retirement during the morning, and neither of them returned to the hotel in the afternoon.

Among the matters discussed at the secret session were the preparation and circulation of political literature and the disbursement of league funds from Chicago as well as from New York. The latter could not be finally adopted by the meeting of today, but it is said to be probable that the plan will be adopted.

The representatives of the Western clubs expressed themselves as desirous of making their clubs more of a factor in the work of the national league. The work has heretofore been entirely controlled in the East. It was desired to have Western funds distributed from headquarters in Chicago.

The result of the discussion on political literature was that Mr. Clarkson was authorized to appoint a committee to prepare such literature for distribution as should deal partially with the arguments advanced by the various farmers' organizations, and all who do not hold orthodox Republican views. The meeting adjourned to accept the hospitality of H. H. Kohlsant of the Inter-Ocean at the Union League Club.

Political Straws.

Hon. Joseph H. Manley denies having said that Mr. Blaine is in the presidential race.

The anti-lottery convention at New Orleans Thursday nominated Murphy J. Foster for governor.

The National Prohibition Committee has decided that the next national convention to nominate candidates for president and vice-president shall be held in St. Louis on June 29, 30 next.

The appointment by President Harrison of Judge William A. Woods of the District Court to be United States circuit judge is generally condemned by Democrats. A movement is on foot to urge Senators Voorhees and Turpie to fight his confirmation in the Senate. The Democrats' objection to Woods results from the fact that as district judge he prevented the indictment of "Blocks of Five" Dudley, and quashed about 200 indictments in the Federal Court against Republican bribers in the election of 1888.

At Baton Rouge, La., Friday evening, the regular State Democratic convention nominated Judge S. D. McEnery for governor. The mention of McEnery's name caused a wild outburst of applause. The roll call showed—yeas 442, nays 0. Ex-Gov. Robert Wickliffe was unanimously nominated for lieutenant-governor. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Judge McEnery was not present, but Mr. Wickliffe made a stirring speech.

Despite the fact that the credentials of Gov. Hill have been presented in the United States Senate, it is perfectly well understood here that he will fill out his term as governor. He has invited Governor-elect Flower to visit him during the last week of his administration as governor and to remain at the executive mansion until inauguration day.

One hundred citizens of Milwaukee, Wis., representing a capital of several millions of dollars, have signed their names to a guarantee fund of $100,000 to pay the expenses of the Democratic national convention, should it be secured for Milwaukee.

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You can Secure your Favorite Magazine, or Weekly Story, or News Journal, in connection with The Weekly Globe, at a Price, for Both, that will Reduce the Cost of The Weekly Globe to 50 cents or less a Year. The Postage is Paid by The Globe and costs you Nothing.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Every Preparation Made to Bring Chili to Terms.

Political Troubles in Quebec—Fields in Prison—Labor's Struggles.

Robbing Mail Wagons—Base Ball Deal—Notes.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A Washington special to the Herald says that active preparations for war still continue in the Navy Department.

Steps have now been taken to secure the most available vessels in the merchant marine for possible service in Chilian waters.

Arrangements have been made in New York and San Francisco to charter if necessary from 30 to 40 vessels, to be used as transports and colliers.

An offer from a New York shipowner, of a score or more of small vessels to carry coal, has met with the thanks of the department, and a request has been made that he hold his vessels so as to have them ready on 24 hours' notice.

Naval officials are also looking about in New York for vessels to be used in the torpedo service.

It has been reported by them that the most available craft for this service are the fast private yachts of the metropolis.

It is urged that these yachts can be very quickly converted into torpedo boats and cruisers, and the belief is expressed that they will prove fully as effective as the torpedo craft of the Chilian navy.

According to naval authorities our weakest point now is a lack of torpedoes. Orders hurrying up the two firms who have contracts to furnish torpedoes have recently been issued.

There are many more available vessels, of course, on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts than in the Pacific. There were a year ago on the Eastern coast. 13,049 sailing vessels and 2800 steam vessels. Of these vessels, all those less than 200 tons would not be pressed into the service. This would still give to the department of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts alone 2035 steam vessels and 11,176 sailing vessels to choose from.

On the Pacific coast there are 217 steam vessels, and 285 sailing vessels.

It is likely that the Pacific coast vessels would be the first sought after, and communication has already been had with one of the large shipowners in San Francisco.

Activity is also displayed in the War Department. Informal consultations have taken place between army and navy officials as to the co-operation of the two forces in event of trouble. It has been represented that the army will be able to furnish on short notice 15,000 men for transportation either from San Francisco or Galveston. The naval officials say that fully this number of men will be required.

One of the strategic points would be to seize Sandy Point, a Chilian port, in the straits of Magellan, and place sufficient troops there to hold it as a base of supplies and as a coaling station.

The bulk of the troops would be landed at Iquique to capture and hold the nitrate beds, which are Chili's greatest source of revenue, and from which our indemnity would be obtained.

Naval officers who have served in Chilian waters say that it is very doubtful whether Chili will apologize until she sees the war ships of the United States and hears that war has been declared.

The opinions of these officers are highly regarded in the department, and it is on the strength of their opinions and their experience in South America that the higher officials of the Navy Department deem it wise to make such extraordinary preparations.

MOTHER'S HEART BROKEN.

She Falls Dead Beside Her Son, Who Had Just Committed Suicide.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Samuel H. Dodson, until recently employed at Merchants Despatch car works, but who was dismissed on account of negligence, committed suicide yesterday.

This morning Mrs. Susan Dodson, the widowed mother of the suicide, while at the bedside of her son, fell backward in a chair and expired.

BOLD ROBBERY IN NEW YORK.

Silks and Satins Worth $10,000 or $12,000 Carted Away.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Burglars entered the bric-a-brac store of Baumgarten & Son, at 321 Fifth av., on Wednesday morning, and, it is said, stole between $10,000 and 12,000 worth of silks and satins.

The police have been at work on the burglary ever since, but they absolutely refuse to say anything about it.

It appears that the burglars entered the stable of the firm in 33d st., which is directly in the rear of the store.

Entrance to the store was easily made through a rear door, and the goods were packed into a wagon in the stable.

After the goods were packed in the firm's wagon, one of their horses was hitched to it, and when the coast was clear the wagon was driven out of the stable and down town.

No arrests have yet been made.

UNITY OF TRAINMEN.

New York Railway Employes to Hold a Convention Next Month.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—There was a meeting in this city this morning of the executive committee appointed by Millard Division, 104, and New York City Division, 54, of the Order of Railway Conductors, to arrange for a convention of railway employes to be held at the Academy of Music, this city, on Jan. 31.

The object of the convention is to make one gigantic organization of the four orders now existing, viz.: The conductors, brakemen, engineers and firemen.

The telegraphers will also be asked to unite.

The chairman of the executive committee having the arrangements in hand is C. E. Weisz.

He has been instructed to appoint various committees for detail work.

Among others is a committee to wait on President Harrison, Gov. Hill, Gov.-elect Flower and Lieut.-Gov.-elect Sheehan, and invite them to attend the convention.

"POLITICS, PURE AND SIMPLE."

Gowan of New York Says Powderly Trampled on the Order.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Michael F. Gowan, the master workman of District Assembly 147, who was notified recently of his expulsion from the Knights of Labor by the general board of that order, took occasion last night to indulge in a bitter denunciation of Powderly and his official associates.

He declares that his expulsion was not due, as alleged, to any violation of the K. of L. constitution.

"It was politics, pure and simple," he said, "that gained for me the enmity of Czar Powderly.

"The constitution of the order has been trampled on and ignored repeatedly by this man Powderly and his gang."

STARVED TO SUBMISSION.

Strikers Compelled to Return to Work in Mines at Brazil, Ind.

BRAZIL, Ind., Dec. 19.—Thirty miners were taken to the Perth mine yesterday.

Each man carried a weapon for use in case of assault by the Austrians in the neighborhood, who are wild with anger, and vow to wreak vengeance on the "blacklleggers."

It will be remembered that a man who was recently working in one of the mines was taken out and horribly beaten.

Intense excitement prevails and should an attack be made upon the men at work by the angry miners, who refuse to go into the mines at the old scale, great loss of life will doubtless ensue.

The men who were forced to go to work or permit their children to starve and suffer for the want of clothing are struggling for a scanty living at the risk of their lives.

A mob of angry strikers from Perth, Caseyville, Rosedale and Coxville attacked the "blackleggers" train at Coal Bluff, while returning from Syndicate mine, No. 8, last evening.

The windows of the cars containing the "blackleggers" were smashed with stones. Several pistols were discharged, but no one was injured.

The train passed the station at the rate of 40 miles an hour, so that it was impossible for any of the mob to board the cars, and the enraged strikers gave vent to their feelings by firing revolvers and throwing stones.

The long-delayed relief has at last reached Perth and Caseyville, and many of the strikers who had promised to return to work changed their minds.

Notwithstanding the arrival of the funds at Perth and Caseyville, many of the strikers reported at various mines operated by the syndicate and said they had had enough of starvation and would report for work on Monday.

THE FIELD FAMILY.

Edward M. Still in Jail and Cyrus, His Father, Very Sick.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Edwin M. Field still lingers in Ludlow st. jail and his venerable father still lingers between life and death at his home.

The misfortunes of the mentally afflicted prisoner continue to accumulate, the latest addition being the foreclosure proceedings brought last evening by Platt & Bowers against the property at 123 and 125 West 53d st., at the instance of the city chamberlain.

The city had a mortgage on each of these houses for $9000.

Edward M. Field is their owner.

The former head of the bankrupt firm of Field, Lindley, Wiechers & Co. still refuses to partake of sufficient food to maintain his strength, and Warden Dunlap has become alarmed.

He decided this morning to have the physician attached to Ludlow st. jail examine Field to see if something cannot be done for his guest.

All day yesterday he ate only a couple of pieces of milk toast and drank a cup of tea.

It was with the greatest effort that he could be induced to partake of that, and it is on this account that Warden Dunlap proposes to be guided by medical advice.

The attaches of the jail sympathize with the unfortunate man, and all concur in the statement that he has not uttered a word since he has been in the jail except when spoken to.

Cyrus Field Stronger.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Dr. Fuller, speaking of the illness of Mr. Cyrus W. Field this morning, said:

"I apprehend no immediate danger in Mr. Field's case.

"He has known all along what was developing in regard to his son, and the news of his arrest therefore was not such a shock as it might otherwise have been.

"Mr. Field has little ambition to live, and does not care for food, and we have to get him to eat the best way we can, but his physical strength is much greater than it was two weeks ago."

ROBBING THE MAILS.

Daring Attack on Uncle Sam's Wagons in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—At a late hour last night a United States mail wagon, filled with registered and other matter, was stopped by five men and robbed of its contents.

The robbery took place on Mather st. between Desplaines and Halsted sts., and was done so quickly that before the affair was reported to the police the robbers had half an hour's start.

In a refuse box on the north side, three miles from the scene of the robbery, the cut mail pouches and their rifled contents were found about midnight.

The wagon was on its way to the main post office, with mail from the stock yards and southwest stations.

When half way to Desplaines st. five men sprang from an alley, and while one seized the horses' reins the others covered the driver with revolvers and commanded him to keep quiet.

The team was then led into an alley.

While two of the men covered the driver with revolvers the others forced open the door of the wagon, and, hastily selecting the registered pouches from the others, made off through the alley.

An inventory of the contents of the wagon by the post office officials shows that two registered mail pouches from the stock yards station and the southwest station were missing.

As nearly as can be estimated, the robbers secured in the neighborhood of $6000 in currency and about $200,000 in non-negotiable paper sent by the drovers and the stock yards national banks to their correspondents.

Seventy-three letters and packages were found in the rent bags picked up on the north side.

"It is very evident," said Post Office Inspector Stewart, "that the gang calculated on getting a good haul, as the carrier they attacked is known to have quite a valuable mail from the stock yards district.

Two crooks, Michael and John Shevelin, are held on suspicion.

ROGERS' GOOD PLUCK.

Heir to Millions, He is Not Afraid to Work as a Common Laborer.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—It is not a usual thing to see a youth of 19, living in the refinement of riches and heir to millions, working on the streets as a common laborer at $1.50 a day, but this is what J. S. Rogers of Morrisania has been doing.

His family is one of the best known and very wealthy families of Morrisania. Young Rogers has been devoting himself to the study of electricity, and recently decided to get a practical knowledge.

The trolley system being built in the annexed district seemed to offer him an opportunity, and he began at the beginning.

For the past four weeks he has been stringing wires and digging holes for the posts, and he has done just as much work as any man in the gang.

He is still doing this sort of work, and will undoubtedly get all the knowledge he desires.

THERE'S LOTS OF THEM LEFT.

Two Cranks in Washington Want Uncle Sam to Divide Surplus.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Washington has been the mecca of cranks since the assassination of Garfield, and recently the number has grown to large proportions.

Since the attempt on the life of Russell Sage by Norcross, the police have given much attention to these people.

Like Norcross, most of the cranks labor under the hallucination that the world, or the government or an individual, owes them money.

Yesterday two men were arrested, and they rambled on about "levelling up" matters, asserting that they would have to be given their share of government money before they left Washington.

Many hundred claimants for pensions are included in the crank army.

SWINDLED JEWS.

Fearful Tales of Suffering from the Argentine Republic.

According to reports from settlers in the Argentine Republic, Hebrew immigrants who, being driven from Russia, sought refuge in South America are receiving rather harsh treatment.

Some of the established Jewish residents of Buenos Ayres have written letters to the organ of their sect in this country, in which are depicted sufferings experienced by the immigrants.

According to these accounts the Jews have been duped and plundered by contract agents and treated most inhumanly.

Oct. 14 last some 500 families—outcasts from Russia—arrived in Buenos Ayres.

Previous to sailing they signed a contract, the other party to the instrument being M. Frank, agent for the Banko National Colonization Company of Paris.

The immigrants, according to the terms of the contract, were to pay 400 francs per family to the company, in return for which they would receive houses, lands and the implements needed for agriculture when they should land and also cattle and other live stock.

The company of Jews did not have money enough to pay the colonization company upon landing at Buenos Ayres, but they paid 18,000 francs, which was 2000 less than the contract demanded. The money was accepted in part payment, and they were informed that the company could not provide the homes stipulated by the contract, as the non-payment of the entire sum destroyed the validity of the contract. Eleven thousand francs was refunded, and the remaining 7000, they were told, was retained for expenses.

Dr. Pedro Polaskas represented that he had a tract of land, fertile and only 20 hours' ride from Buenos Ayres, and advised them to settle on it.

He said the land was broken, with dwellings upon it. He agreed to sell the land at 40 pesetas an acre, no family to buy less than 100 acres. He accepted 8000 francs in part payment.

The Jews went there and found the described land a barren wilderness, no part of it under tillage, and no dwelling house of any kind in the vicinity.

The nights were cold, and with but little food they were compelled to endure the exposure and sickness.

In a short time the ravages of disease killed 75 or 80 children, and the majority of the adults were rendered almost helpless.

An agent was sent to Buenos Ayres, but he could get no help for his starving fellow-countrymen.

Dr. Polaskas brought an action against the Jewish settlers for neglect to pay for the land or work it.

Before the tribunal, after telling their story, they were told that they must leave the property.

Dr. Polaskas instituted a lottery for the benefit of the Jews and appropriated the proceeds, 50,000 pesetas.

Some Jewish settlers, untrammelled by connection with any colonization company, established a settlement some five miles from the Polaskas lands and the persecuted Hebrews found an asylum with them.

Other previous colonies have been met with substantially the same treatment, according to the letters of Dr. Eugena Sonnenfeld of Buenos Ayres.

BIG BASE BALL DEAL.

The Association Bought Out and a 12-Club League Organized.

All the principal proprietors of the base ball clubs of the two big organizations of the country appeared in Indianapolis, Wednesday, to discuss ways and means to bring about a plan to settle all difficulties between the organizations. At the meeting of the association's presidents and managers a squabble arose, for President Williams and his colleagues of the Chicago club opposed the idea of consolidation, or anything tending to that end, as such action would have the effect of completely overthrowing the Chicago association club. But the Chicago men were hopelessly in the minority, and the meeting appointed a committee of three to confer with a similar committee of the league, who settled the terms of buying out the association. Following are the exact figures paid for each of the association clubs demolished by the deal: Bostons, $35,000; Athletics, $45,000; Columbus, $18,000; Chicago, $14,000; Milwaukee, $6000; total, $118,000. This is the total funeral expense of the association.

As to reappointment of players by the 12-club league, little is known further than that Rusie goes back to New York and Pfeffer will not play with the Chicago club.

The new league promulgated its constitution, in which it appears that four association teams are assessed something like $10,000 each toward the fund raised to buy out the other clubs.

In addition to this, 10 per cent. of their gate receipts will be appropriated to assist in raising a sinking fund of $25,000.

The new league is formed ostensibly to endure 10 years, and one clause says that it cannot disband without a unanimous vote of the 12 clubs.

Section 8, however, says that the membership of any club may be terminated for any one of eight reasons, one of which is by resignation duly accepted by a three-fourths vote of the clubs.

The others are for failures to comply with the constitution.

The general admission fee to all championship games shall be 50 cents, but each club shall reserve the right to withdraw and provide seats thereon, the admission to which shall be 25 cents. This permits the 25-cent towns—Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Louisville, St. Louis, and possibly Pittsburg—to have 25-cent base ball if they desire.

DISMISSED PEREMPTORILY.

Mercier's Government in Quebec Sent Out of Office.

MONTREAL, Dec. 16.—The royal commission, which has had in charge the investigation into the charges that Premier Mercier and his ministers, through Ernest Pacaud, a go-between, blackmailed a contractor of the Baie des Chaleurs railway out of over $100,000, made their report today to Lieut.-Gov. Angers.

From Liberal sources and friends of the present ministry, however, it is stated that the report, while exonerating Minister of Public Works Gardneau, President of the Council Marchand, Treasurer Sheyn, condemns all the other ministers, and characterizes their connection with the matter as corrupt and illegal.

The sending of a copy of the report by the Governor to Mercier was thought to be for the purpose of giving the latter an opportunity to resign before they are requested to step down and out.

Mr. De Boucherville, a former Conservative premier of the province, was sent for by Gov. Angers yesterday, and will form a Conservative ministry. The election will be called within a month, and the people of the province will have an opportunity of indorsing the Governor's action or re-electing Mercier and the most corrupt and unprincipled gang of thieving politicians that have ever ruled the province.

The chances for Mercier's return to power are fair.

Canada Proposes a Tax on American Silver.

MONTREAL, Dec. 18.—A meeting of all the bank managers in Canada was held here yesterday to complete arrangements for an association for mutual protection.

One subject which engaged the attention of the association was that of the circulation of American currency in Canada.

Canadians have come to regard American silver currency, whether represented by coin or paper, as equivalent to their own, without question of the intrinsic or exchange value, they accept these tokens at their face value; yet American silver currency is in value for commercial purposes far below that of Canada, and those who accept it run the risk of appreciable loss.

The bankers fear that unless something is done to check this influx of American currency the evil may become as marked as the period immediately after the rebellion in the United States, and for a second time government interference may be necessary.

The United States has for some years past imposed a tax of 10 per cent. upon Canadian currency, and bankers here propose to urge Parliament to imitate the example, as it is a matter of concern to the bankers to rid the country of this currency, as there is no more profitable branch of their business than the circulating of their own notes, against which they are compelled by law to hold no stipulated reserve.

This opportunity of profit is contracted by the circulation of American notes.

Notes.

A conference of Universal Peace delegates from various ecclesiastical bodies throughout the country was held in New York Thursday. It is proposed to hold a peace convention in Chicago in 1893.

John L. Ferguson, a bookkeper in the National Bank of Kansas City, is under arrest for embezzling $30,000 from the bank.

The Treasury Department has already disbursed nearly $300,000 as bounties on sugar, under the provisions of the McKinley act.

What is said to be the first carload of pig tin ever mined on the North American continent, arrived at Pittsburg Thursday, from Durango, Mex.

A train with 40 passengers on board, ran down an embankment near Cherry Vale, Kan., Thursday, and 26 passengers were injured, three of them fatally.

The boiler in Collett's sawmill, at Ridgeville, Ind., exploded Thursday, killing William Wise, William Collett and James Clawson, and fatally injuring Isaac Nicholson and Oscar Jones.

The extensive plant of the Watkins Wire Spring Company in Lockport, Ill., was burned Monday. Loss $80,000.

Fire, Monday evening, at Centralia, a mining town in Pennsylvania, destroyed eight buildings. Two firemen fell from the roof of a building, sustaining serious injuries. Another fireman was badly burned. Loss $13,000.

Gov. Winan of Michigan has appointed a commission to thoroughly investigate the charges against Secretary of State Soper, who resigned under pressure. Until the committee reports no further action will be taken. The deposed official, in an interview, enters a general denial of the charges preferred against him.

Capt. Anson on Thursday killed 14 out of 15 live pigeons at Watson's park, Chicago, and won for the fourth time the live-bird medal offered by the Dearborn Shooting Club. The valiant captain can now pin the medal on his vest, as it has become his personal property. The captain is getting in trim for his forthcoming match with W. P. Mussey.

Burglars entered the bric-a-brac store of Baumgarten & Son, at 321 5th av., New York, on Wednesday morning, and, it is said, stole between $10,000 and $12,000 worth of silks and satins.

W. N. Pethick, recently appointed managing director of the Chinese railways by Li Hung Chang, was formerly a citizen of New York.

Max Adams, a young society man of Atlanta, is the latest American to join the Khedive's forces. He has just received a commission as captain in the Egyptian army.

A fire in the large wholesale millinery establishment of Porter, Donaldson & Co., 820 to 824 Liberty av., Pittsburg, Penn., Friday, caused a loss of $150,000.

The wife of Senator Hawley of Connecticut is seriously ill at Washington, D. C, Monday she underwent a surgical operation, which left her in an exhausted condition.

Marshall Cushing, the private secretary of the postmaster-general, will be married on Christmas to Miss Isabel McBride Palmer, the daughter of Judge J. R. Palmer of Salt Lake City.

Representative Culberson of Texas has for the second time declined the position of interstate commerce commissioner.

Charles Randolph Uncles, a young colored man, was ordained a priest of the Roman Catholic Church by Cardinal Gibbons in Baltimore, Saturday. Hitherto no colored man has ever been received into the Roman Catholic Church of the United States as a priest.

Miss Clara Barton, president of the American National Association of the Red Cross, has for some time past been negotiating with the proper authorities in the matter of transporting grain, which may be donated in the United States to the suffering peasants in Russia.

Robbers broke open the express office at Lake Charles, La., and took a package containing $1000.

A wreck occurred at Dudley, Ia., on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad Tuesday. Seventeen cars were demolished, and Engineer Welsh and Fireman McGovern instantly killed.

Four alleged leaders of the gang that have been flooding Philadelphia with counterfeit money were arrested Friday. They are Raphael di Nicola and Giacoma di Nicola, keepers of an Italian restaurant and lodging-house, and who is sale dealers in counterfeit money, and Frederick Derogati and Emma Tate, accomplices. The coin dealt in is an imitation of the silver dollar of 1888. The paper is a counterfeit of the $5 treasury note of the issue of 1880 with the portrait of Jackson, and is a fairly good one, and extremely dangerous. The gang has been disposing of from $500 to $1000 a week of the counterfeit money.

The French Institute has granted the Cuvier prize of $300 to the United States Geological Survey for the excellence of its work.

It is stated that the reciprocity treaty with Cuba, reducing the duty on flour from $6.50 to $1 a barrel, has caused orders for that commodity to be placed in Baltimore for 300,000 barrels, with the certainty of the trade being increased in the near future.

The cruiser San Francisco, flagship of the Pacific squadron, is under sealed orders, and it is expected she will sail this week for Valparaiso.

A collision occurred early Wednesday morning on the Chespeake & Ohio, near Alderson, W. Va., between a passenger train which left Cincinnati Tuesday night, and a freight train. A brakeman, fireman and mail clerk were killed and three trainmen injured.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

IN LEADING MARKETS.

Quotations on Staple Products at New York, Chicago and St. Louis.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Cotton, spots quiet, steady; sales, 97 bales; ordinary uplands, 5 9-16c; do gulf, 5 15-16c; good ordinary stained, 5 1-6c; middling uplands, 7 15-16c; do gulf, 8 5-16c; do stained, 7½c. Flour, receipts, 23,416 pkgs; exports, 6367 bbls, 565 sacks; dull, heavy; sales, 17,100 bbls; low extras, $3.50@4.15; city mills, $5.10@5.25; city mills, patents, $5.25@5.50; winter wheat, low grades, $3.50@4.15; fair to fancy, $4.10@4.90; patents, $4.60@5.25; Minnesota clear, $4.15@4.85; straights, $4.45@5.10; do, patents, $4.60@5.50; rye mixtures, $4.15@4.85; superfine, $3.15@3.75; fine, $2.85@3.50. Southern flour dull, weak. Rye flour quiet, heavy. Buckwheat flour dull and provide seats thereon, the admission to which shall be 25 cents. This permits the 25-cent towns—Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Louisville, St. Louis, and possibly Pittsburg—to have 25-cent base ball if they desire.

Corn meal quiet, steady. Wheat, receipts, 223,020 bush; exports, 230,949 bush; sales, 81,000 bush; market higher, irregular; closing easy, dull; No. 2 red, $1.06¾@1.06¾ store and elevator, $1.07⅝@1.08⅝ afloat; $1.07½@1.09⅛ f. o. b.; No. 3 red, $1.02¾@1.03 ungraded red, 93c@$1.03¼; No. 1 Northern, $1.08⅝@1.09⅛; No. 1 hard, $1.12⅝; No. 2 Northern, $1.03¼@1.03½. Rye dull, unchanged; Western, $1.00@1.02½. Barley dull, irregular; No. 2 Milwaukee, 72@74c. Barley malt quiet; Canada, country made, 85c. Corn, receipts, 252,375 bush; exports, 17,319 bush; sales, 53,000 bush; irregular, quiet; No. 2, 59@60c elevator, 60@61c afloat; ungraded mixed, 47½@70c; No. 3, 51½@52½c; steamer mixed, 56⅝@57½c. Oats, receipts, 92,250 bush; exports, 140,-46 bush; sales, 49,000 bush; dull, unchanged; No. 3, 40½c; do white, 40¼c; No. 2, 41c; do white, 41c; No. 1, 41½c; do white, 42c; mixed Western, 39½@42c; white do, 41@44c; white State, 41@44c; No. 2 Chicago, 42c. Coffee, Rio dull, steady; No. 7, 13¾@13⅝c. Sugar, raw dull, nominal; refined, dull, steady; No. 6, 5 1-16c; No. 7, 3⅝c; No. 8, 3 9-16c; No. 9, 3½c; No. 10, 3 7-16c; No. 11, 3 7-16c; No. 12, 3⅜c; off A, 3¾@3 15-16c; mould A, 4⅜c; standard A, 4 3-16c; confectioners' A, 4 1-16c; cut loaf, 5⅛c; crushed, 5¼c; powdered, 4⅝c; granulated, 4⅛@4¼c; cubes, 4⅜c. Molasses, foreign nominal; New Orleans active, firm; common to fancy, 33@38c. Rice fairly active, firm; domestic fair to extra, 5½@7c; Japan, 5½@5¾c. Petroleum quiet, steady; united, 60c. Cottonseed oil quiet, easy; crude, 26c; yellow, 29¼c. Tallow quiet, firm; city ($2 for pkgs), 4¾c; country (pkgs free), 4 11-16@4 15-16c. Rosin dull, steady; strained, common to good, $1.35@1.40. Potatoes quiet, steady; Jersey, 75c@$1.25; State, $1@1.37; sweets, $1.50@3; Michigan, $1.25@1.37. Turpentine quiet, firm, 33½@34¼c. Pork quiet, easy; old mess, $9.25; new mess, $9.75@10.25; extra prime, $9.50. Beef inactive, steady; family, 14@12c; extra mess, 9@10c; beef hams dull, unchanged, quoted 13c; tierced beef quiet, steady; city extra India mess, 16@18c; cut meats dull, easy; pickled bellies, 5½c; do shoulders, 5c; do hams, 7¾@8c. Lard dull, quiet, steady; short clear, 6.20c. Lard lower, dull; Western steam, 6.37½c; city, 6c; refined better demand; continent, 6.50@6.80c; S. A., 7.50c. Butter quiet, unchanged; State dairy, 17@26c; do. creamery, 20@26c; Western dairy, 16@22c; do. creamery, 19@29c; do. factory, 14½@20c; Elgin, 29½c; imitation creamery, 14@24c; rolls, 16@20c. Cheese quiet, steady; State, 8¾@11½c; fancy, 11@11½c; part skims, 4½@9c; full skims, 4@c. Freights to Liverpool, market dull, unchanged; cotton, per steam, 3-16d; grain, per steam, 4¼d. Pig iron, fairly active; Scotch, $21@24.50; American, $15.50@17.75. No call on Saturdays for copper, lead, tin or spelter.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Wheat, No. 2, December, 91½c; January, 92½c; May, 97¾c. Corn, No. 2, December, 46c; January, 43⅛c; May, 42⅝c. Oats, No. 2, December, 32½c; January, 31⅛c; May, 33c. Mess pork, December, $7.70; January, $10.52½; May, $11.02½. Lard, December, 5.90c; January, 6.05c; May, 6.40c. Short ribs, December, 5.05c; January, 5.25c; May, 5.60c. Flour unchanged. Wheat firmer; No. 2 spring, 91½@91⅝c; No. 2 red, 91½@92c. Corn weak and lower; No. 2, 45½c. Oats steady; No. 2, 32½c. No. 2 rye, 80c. No. 2 barley, 59c. No. 1 flaxseed, 95½c. Hog products lower; mess pork, $7.70@7.80 lard, 6@6.02½c; short ribs sides, 5.10@5.25c; dry salted shoulders, 4.37½@4.50c; short clear sides, 5.50@5.55c. Whiskey, $1.18. Receipts—Flour, 20,000 bbls; wheat, 107,000 bush; corn, 244,000 bush; oats, 189,000 bush; rye, 14,000 bush; barley, 47,000 bush. Shipments—Flour, 17,000 bbls; wheat, 64,000 bush; corn, 192,000 bush; oats, 223,000 bush; rye, 7000 bush; barley, 63,000 bush.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—Flour dull. Wheat closed ⅜c higher than yesterday; No. 2 red, 93½@93¾c; December, 93⅜c; May, 98⅜c. Corn closed ¼@½c off from yesterday; No. 2, 38⅞c; year, 39c; January, 37¼c; May, 39⅝c bid. Oats dull; No. 2, 31½c; May, 32⅞c. Rye neglected. Barley quiet; Iowa, 56c; Minnesota, 53c. Provisions quiet and a shade easier. Pork, old, $8.87½; new, $11. Lard, 5.80c. Dry salt meats, shoulders, 5.90c; longs and ribs, 5.52½c; short clear, 5.50c. Bacon, shoulders, 5.50c; longs, 6.37½c; ribs, 6.37½c; short clear, 6.50c. Receipts—Flour, 500 bbls; wheat, 94,000 bush; corn, 161,000 bush; oats, 40,000 bush; rye, 1000 bush; barley, 12,000 bush. Shipments—Flour, 5000 bbls; wheat, 13,000 bush; corn, 100,000 bush; oats, 17,000 bush; rye, 4000 bush; barley, 1000 bush.

BOSTON MARKETS.

Produce.

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 21.

BUTTER—The market has been weak in tone as the demand is light and stocks have accumulated. Following are quotations:

Nor. creamery, extra, 27@28; Western creamery, extra, 27@28; do, ex, 1st, 25@26; do, 1st, 23@24; Franklin Co. Mass. creamery, extra, box, 30@31; do, extra dairy, 28@29; Vermont extra dairy, 25@..; do, extra New York, 24@25; New York and Vermont extra 1st, 20@23; do, 1st, 19@20; Western dairy, extra 1st, 19@20; do, 1st, 18@20; Western imitation creamery, extra, 22@23; Western ladle-packed, ex. 1st, 20@21; do 1st, 15@18; Trunk butter, ¼ and ½-lb prints, extra, 27@28; Long dairies, 18@20.

CHEESE—The trade has been moderate, and the sales are confined to small lots. Prices, however, are maintained.

We quote: New York extra, 11¼@11½c ₰ lb; do, 1st, 10@10½; do, 2ds, 8@9; Vermont extra, 11@11½; do, 1st, 10@10½; do, 2ds, 8@9; sage, 12@12½; part skims, 6@9; skims, ..@...; Ohio flat, extra, 10¾@11c; do 1st, 9@10.

EGGS—Good to fresh laid eggs are in good demand, but otherwise the market is dull and quiet and the prices barely maintained.

We quote: Near-by and cape, fancy, 32@33c ₰ doz; Eastern extra, 28@30c; do, 1st, 26@27; Vermont and New Hampshire extra, 28@30, Michigan extras, 27@28; Western 1st, 26 @ 27c; Aroostook Co., Maine, ..@...; P. E. Island, 26@27; Held stock, 23@26c; Limed, 19@20.

BEANS—The receipts have continued liberal and the market is quiet. Best Mediums cannot be sold at over $1.90 per bushel, and Improved Yellow Eyes are dull at $1.95.

We quote: New York, small, hand picked, $2.00@2.05; New York, marrow, $1.85@1.90; New York screened, $1.50@1.80; New York seconds, $1.20@1.40; California Pea beans, $2.10@2.20; do, do, hand picked, $2.20@2.30, medium choice hand picked, $1.80@1.85; do, do, screened, $1.50@1.80; yellow eyes, $1.90@1.95; do, do, second, $1.50@1.80; red kidneys, $2.00@2.20. Foreign Beans—Pea, $1.70@1.90; Mediums, $1.70@1.80. Dried Limas, per pound, 3½@3¾c.

DOMESTIC FRUITS—We quote apples and other fruits as follows:

Apples—Baldwin, No. 1, $1.25@1.50; Greenings, No. 1, $1.00@1.50; Baldwin and Greening, No. 2, 65c@$1.00. King and Snow, $1.75@2.00; Mixed varieties, $1.00@1.50.

Evaporated apple, fancy, 7@8c; fair to good, 6@7c; prime, 5@6c; sun dried, sliced and quartered, 3@5c.

Grapes—Western New York, per 5-lb basket, Concord, 10@12c; Catawba, 10@12c; Isabella, 10@12c.

Cranberries—Cape Cod, $5.00@6.50; Country, $4.00@5.50.

VEGETABLES—We quote the following current prices:

Potatoes—Maine and New Hampshire Rose and Hebrons, $1.25@1.50 per bbl.; do, do, ₰ bush., 45@48c; New York Burbanks, 48@50c ₰ bush.

Sweets—Virginia yellow, extra, $1.50@1.75; do, Jersey, extra, $2.50@2.75.

Cabbage, Northern, $2.00@4.00 per 100.

Onions—Native yellow, $1.75@2.00.

Squashes, marrow, per bbl., 50@60c.

Turnips—Rutabagas, Ruta Bagas, 70 @ 85c; White, Cape, 90c@$1.00 per bbl.

HAY AND STRAW.—Following are the rates for hay and straw.

N. Y. extra, $17.00@18.00 per ton; do, fair to good, $..@...; Eastern choice to fancy, $16.00@16.50; do, fair to good, $14.00@15.00; ordinary, $13.00@14.00; hay and clover, mixed, $10.50@12.00; poor to common, $10.50@12.00; swale hay, $7.50@8.50.

Rye straw, $14.00 @14.50 per ton; oat straw, $6.00@7.00 per ton.

POULTRY—Turkeys, Northern and Eastern fresh killed: Choice large young, 16@18c ₰ lb; common to good, 13 @ 15; old, 10@11. Spring Chickens: Choice large, 14@15c; common to good, 10@13c. Fowl, extra choice 12@13c; common to good, 10@11c ₰ lb. Green Ducks, 12@13 ₰ lb.

GAME—Partride, 50c@$1.00 ₰ pair; Woodcock, 40@50 ₰ pair; Quail, Western, $1.25@1.50 ₰ doz; Grouse, $1.00@1.15 per pair. Wild duck—Mallard, 55@65c; Small, 25@35c.

Groceries.

COFFEE—We quote: Java padangs, pale, 25½@26; do, Tunor, 22½@..c; do, Ankola, 28 @ 29c; do, Holland bags, 22c; Mandhelings and Ayer Bangoe, 29 @ 32c; do, Mocha, ..@..; do, Rio, prime, 18@18¼c; do fair, 17¾c; do, ordinary, 15½@..c; low ordinary, 14½c; Maracaibo, 19½@20¼c; do ordinary, ..@18¾c; Bucramanger, 20 @ 21c; Caracas, ..@ 21c; Languayra, 19c; Costa Rica, ..@ 19½c; Jamaica, 17 @ 19½c; Guatemala, 20¾@22c. Mexican, 19½@21c; Hayti, 16½@18c.

RICE—We quote: Louisiana and Carolina. Choice, 6@6½c; Prime, 5¼@5¾c; Good, 5@5¼c; Fair, 4½@5; Rangoon (duty paid), 4½@..; Java, 5@5½c; Japan, 5@5½c; Patna, 4½.

FRUITS AND NUTS—Following are the current quotations: Raisins, London layers, new, $2.75@3.00; Muscatel, new, $2.50@4.00; Sultana, 11@12; Eleme, ...; Valencia, new, 7¾@7¾; do, Ondara, new, ...@...; Malaga, 6 @ 8c ₰ lb. Citron, Leghorn, 18@24. Dates—Persian, new, 3½@6; do, fard, new, ..@.. Figs—Layers, 10@22; do, keg, 8 @ 9. Prunes, French, case, 10½@15; do, Turk, new, 7@8c; do bag, 5 @ 6c. Lemons—Palermo, $2.50@4.50; Florida, 8.....@..... Oranges—Jamaica, ...; 8.....@...; Sicily, 8.....@.....; Florida, $2.00@5.50. Bananas—Baracoa, yellow, 90c@1.00; do, Red, ..@65c; Port Limon, 8, ..@1.40; Jamaica, No. 1, 8....@1.40; 8 hands, $1.35; No. 2, 60c. Walnuts, Naples, 14@15c; Castinas, 6½@8c; Grenoble, 14@15c. Filberts, 9@10c; Almonds, 16@17c; Peanuts, hand-picked, 5@5½c; do, Fms, 2½@4c; Shellbarks, $1.50@1.75.

Flour and Grain.

FLOUR—Following are the current prices for carload lots of flour:

Fine flour, $3.25@3.50; Superfine, $3.85@4.20; Common extras, $4.25@4.50; Choice extras, $4.60@4.75; Minnesota bakers, $4.75@4.90; Michigan roller, $4.75@5.00; New York, do, $4.75@5.50; Ohio and Indiana, $4.90@5.00; do, do, straight, $5.00@5.10; do, do, patent, $5.25@5.50; Spring wheat patents, $5.35@5.60 ₰ bbl.

CORN—We quote: High mixed, ..@62½c ₰ bush; Steamer yellow, 62 @ ..c ₰ bush; Steamer mixed, 61c ₰ bush; ordinary, 60c ₰ bush.

OATS—No. 1 and Fancy, clipped, 46 @ ..c ₰ bush; standard, do, 45@45½c; No. 2, white, 44½c ₰ bush; No. 3, do, 43½c ₰ bush.

Fish.

FISH—Following are the current prices for the week past:

Mackerel—Extras, $30.00@32.00 ₰ bbl; No 1 shore, $26.00@28.00; No 1 Bay, $22.00@23.00; Large 2s, $18.00@20.00; medium 2s, $..@...; Small 2s, $13.00@14.00; Small, ..@..; Medium 3s, $10.50@11.50.

Codfish—Dry Bank, large, $7.25@7.50; do, do, medium, $5.50@6.50; Shore, $7.00@7.50; Hake, $3.25@3.50; Haddock, $4.25@4.50; Pollock, pickl'd, $2.75@3.25; do, slack salted, $3.25@3.50; Boneless Hake, 5½c ₰ lb. Boneless Haddock, 6 @ 7c ₰ lb; Boneless Cod, 8@9c.

Herring—Nova Scotia Splits, large, $7.50@8.00; do, medium, $5.50@6.50; Labrador, $6.50@7.00; Round Shore, large, $4.50@5.00.

Pickled and Smoked Salmon—No

CO-OPERATION IN FARMING.

A New Department Open to Every Subscriber—Nature of Different Soils—A Farmer's View of Politics—Beet Culture, Etc.

Andrew H. Ward invites readers to correspond with him on the subjects treated, to ask for more definite information, or to tell their own experience, or to suggest new subjects for discussion. Everybody is welcome to this department to write on any subject. Mr. Ward will lecture in every town in New England on any subject relating to farming for profit, free of all expense, except that of travel and lodging. Address THE WEEKLY GLOBE, Boston, Mass.

Rotation of Crops.

[Written for The Weekly Globe.]

The experience of husbandmen, from the earliest time, has shown that the same kind of plants, with some exceptions, cannot be cultivated advantageously in continued succession on the same soil. The same, or similar species, have a tendency to grow feebly, degenerate, or become more subject to diseases, when cultivated consecutively on the same ground, and hence the rule which forms the basis of a system of regular alternation of crops, is that plants of the same or allied species are not to be grown in immediate succession; and, furthermore, the same rule would imply that similar kinds of crops should recur at as distant intervals of the course as circumstances will allow.

With great labor, enormous expense and the application of manure without measure, the same soil may be made to yield all sorts of plants, but it is far from being in a system of management like this that agricultural science should be made to subsist. Agriculture is not to be carried on either as a matter of fancy or of luxury, and, whenever its products fail liberally to repay the expenditure, both of money and of labor bestowed upon them, it may be assumed at once that the system pursued is wrong. A skilful and discreet farmer will, first of all, consider attentively the nature and properties of his soil, that he may determine to what particular course of culture it is best adapted; and of this he will be able to judge either by the character of the plants, which grow spontaneously upon it, or by sowing it with different seeds by way of experiment. Nor will he be satisfied to cultivate promiscuously, and without change, even such plants as he finds suited to the soil and climate, since the productive powers of soils become greatly diminished by cultivating upon them uninterruptedly the same plants. In order, therefore, that he may ensure a constant succession of good crops, he will cultivate different kinds of plants in rotation upon the same fields, and he will also have these follow each other in such order as experience shall show to be most favorable to their growth, avoiding altogether the introduction of such plants as are unsuited to the soil.

It is this changing of crops, this alternate culture of different kinds of plants, regulated by experience of their respective effects upon the soil, which constitutes that judicious order of succession so indispensable to prosperous husbandry.

Such a system of rotation affords the best of all guarantees to the farmer of success in his operations, and without it all is vague, uncertain and hazardous; but in order to establish an enlightened system of rotation of crops it is required that we should first make ourselves acquainted with the principles on which it must be founded.

Principle 1. All plants exhaust the soil. It is the earth which gives support to plants, and the juices with which it is impregnated constitute their principal nourishment. Water serves as the vehicle for conveying these juices into their organs, and for presenting them to the fibre of their roots, to be absorbed by them.

It is evident, therefore, that the process of vegetation must constantly tend, more and more, to exhaust the soil; so that, unless its nutritive juices be from time to time renewed, it must eventually become sterile.

Thus, a soil that has been once well manured may, without any intermediate additional supply, be made to produce in succession several crops; but they will be seen progressively to degenerate, until finally the soil becomes exhausted.

Principle 2. Plants do not all exhaust the soil in the same degree. Plants are nourished by the air, water and the juices of the soil, but their different kinds do not all consume the same quantity of nutriment.

There are those which require their roots to be constantly immersed in water; some require a soil that is barren and dry, while others again thrive only in soils that are rich and highly manured. The cereal plants and most of the grasses throw up long stems, consisting chiefly of fibrous matter; and these are furnished at their foot with a few leaves, which, on account of the compactness of their texture and the small surface which they present, can absorb comparatively but little either of air or water. These plants, therefore, derive their nourishment principally from the soil, and their stalks are employed either for litter or food for animals; so that while they greatly exhaust the soil they return scarcely anything to it, their stalks being cut and taken away from the ground for the purposes just mentioned, and their roots, which alone remain, being dried up and drained of all their juices in the process of forming and maturing of the seed.

Plants, on the contrary, abundantly furnished with large, thick, porous leaves, that are constantly green, imbibe from the atmosphere carbonic acid and oxygen, and draw from the earth such other substances as they require for their nourishment.

When plants of this kind are cut in a green state the loss of nutritive juices sustained by the soil is less sensibly felt, inasmuch as these are in part given back to it by the roots.

Such plants as are usually cultivated for fodder are nearly all of this description. There is another class of plants which, though cultivated principally for their seed, are less exhausting to the soil than the cereal plants. We refer to the numerous family of legumes, which holds an intermediate place between the two classes of which we have just spoken. The long perpendicular roots of the leguminous plants divide the soil, and their larger leaves and thick, soft, spongy stems readily absorb both air and water. The different parts retain for a long time the juices with which they are so abundantly impregnated, and give them back to the soil when the plants are ploughed in at a period before they become mature, and by this means alone the soil may be put in condition to produce a good crop of grain.

Beans are particularly valuable in this respect, while vetches and peas, and more especially the latter, are less fertilizing in their effects.

Generally speaking, if plants are cut in a green state, and at the time they are in flower, whatever may be their particular nature, they do not exhaust the soil, since up to this period they have drawn their nourishment almost exclusively from the earth, air and water.

Both their stalks and roots abound in juices, and the part remaining after the former are cut return to the soil all that has been taken from it for the support of the plants.

But as soon as the seed once begins to form the process of nutrition undergoes a change.

The plant, as before, still abstracts nutritive principles from the earth and atmosphere; but in addition to this, it now resorts to the juices contained in its stalks and roots, and these, likewise, are made to contribute to the formation of the seed, so that from this time the stalks and roots are both gradually dried up and exhausted; and when at length the seed has reached maturity, the skeleton merely of the plant remains, and this, on being given back to the soil, returns to it but a very inconsiderable portion of what it had previously taken from it.

Oleaginous seeds exhaust the soil more than farinaceous, and the farmer cannot be too careful to rid his land of weeds of the former character, all of which are highly exhausting, especially the wild mustard (sinapsis anensis), with which cultivated fields are so liable to be infested. Principle 3. Different kinds of plants do not exhaust the soil in the same manner.

The roots of plants, whether of the same species or family, extend themselves in a similar manner, penetrating to the same depth, growing the same length, and exhausting all that portion of the soil which they encompass, or with which they come in contact. Such roots as run nearest the surface and occupy the least space are the most divided. Perpendicular roots that penetrate far into the earth throw out but few radicles near the surface, and draw their nourishment from a considerable depth. If in transplanting a turnip or beet the point of the taproot be cut off, so that it can no longer run down into the soil for nourishment, it will send out small fibrous roots from all parts of its surface, which, extending to a certain distance, absorb the nutritive principles from such portions of the soil as they are able to reach, and in this case the form of the root will be roundish, instead of being tapering and long. It would appear, then, that the roots of plants exhaust only such portions of the soil as are in contact with them, and thus long, perpendicular roots may be enabled to obtain from a soil abundant nourishment, even when its upper portion has been completely exhausted by such as naturally run near the surface.

The roots of plants of the same species, and of such, also, as are of analogous character, uniformly extend themselves in a similar direction whenever the character of the soil does not permit their free development; so that they all occupy the same stratum of earth and are nourished by it. Hence it is that trees rarely flourish when, in the same ground, they are made to succeed others of the same species; and especially when sufficient time has not intervened for the roots of the first to decay, so as to afford to the stratum of soil occupied by them a fresh supply of manure.

That different kinds of plants do not exhaust the soil in the same manner would seem to be sufficiently evident, from the simple fact that plants are not nourished by a mere mechanical process. They do not absorb indiscriminately, and in like proportions, all the different salts and juices that may be presented to them; and to whatever we ascribe it, whether to vital action or to the peculiar conformation of their organs in exercising an influence over the nutritive process, it is certain that they have themselves a preference for particular substances. Thus with regard to plants as well as animals, while there are some alimentary substances suited to all, there are others again which are appropriated only to particular species. The truth of this is abundantly evinced by the choice manifested by certain plants in selecting particular salts in preference to others of a different nature.

Principle 4. Plants do not all return to the soil either the same quantity or kind of manure. All plants more or less exhaust the soil of its nutritive juices; but, on the other hand, they all likewise restore to it, in the remains they leave behind them, something in a degree to repair this loss. The cereal and oleaginous plants are the most exhausting of all, and at the same time return the least to the soil.

When plants in being gathered are pulled up with their roots, they do not leave anything to repay for the nourishment they have received.

It is true that other kinds of plants consume in seeding a large proportion of the manure which is contained in the soil; but then the roots of a part of these penetrate far into the soil, separate its parts and render it loose and open to a great depth; while others again cover its surface with their numerous leaves, and these, being detached from their stalks during the process of vegetation, compensate in part for what has been taken from it. There are some plants, also, the stalks and roots of which still retain their succulence even after their fruit has matured, and which, therefore, in their decomposition, restore to the soil a portion of the juices of which they have deprived it.

Certain of the legumes are of this character. Different kinds of plants, which are not ordinarily left to perfect their seed, exhaust the soil but little, and may be introduced with great advantage into a succession of crops, since, by employing them in this way, the same ground may be kept productive for a series of years without any application of manure. Different kinds of clover and alfalfa are of this latter description.

Principle 5. Plants do not all equally 'foul the soil." Plants are said to foul the soil when they encourage or permit the growth of noxious weeds which exhaust it of its alimentary principle, crowd the useful plant, and thereby obstruct its growth, and by appropriating to themselves a portion of its nourishment, accelerate its decay.

All plants not supplied with large and spreading leaves, so as to completely cover the soil on which they grow, are of the class we are now considering. The cereal plants, therefore, take precedence of all others in this respect, since their tall, slender stalks, and long, narrow leaves, but very partially shade the ground, and thus not only permit such weeds as are natural to the soil to spring up in their intervals, but also encourage their growth, by the protection which they afford to them against the heat and winds.

Herbaceous plants, on the other hand, their stalks rising only to a moderate height, and their leaves covering the entire surface of the soil, effectually prevent the growth of everything about their roots, and consequently the soil is kept clean and free from weeds. It must, however, be remarked that this latter effect will only be produced where the soil is suited to the growth of the plants, and at the same time abundantly supplied with manure, so that there shall be a luxuriant and vigorous vegetation, since, in cases where these favorable circumstances do not exist, we shall observe the same plants to be in a feeble and languishing condition, so that they become gradually overshadowed by others of a more sturdy and less useful character, until at length they are entirely displaced by them.

When plants are planted in furrows, as is the case with roots and most of the legumes, large intervals are left, which become occupied by weeds; the soil, however, may be kept clean in this kind of culture by frequently passing over it with the hoe or with some other suitable implement, and it may in this way be maintained in a state sufficiently fertile to produce another crop, especially if the plants growing upon it be not suffered to mature their seed.

The seeds of weeds are often mixed with the seeds of the useful plants, and sown at the same time: the farmer cannot be too careful in avoiding this. But much more frequently these seeds are conveyed by the wind, or deposited by water, or committed to the soil along with the manure.

The improvidence of farmers who suffer thistles and other noxious plants to grow and seed about their fields cannot be too severely censured, since these plants fail not, each successive year, to reproduce other and more abundant crops, until at length they become multiplied to such an extent that it is difficult, and sometimes almost impossible to rid the soil of them.

This negligence is often carried so far that, whilst the grain is cut about the thistles, these latter are left standing to perfect, undisturbed, the maturing of their seeds. How much more rational and profitable it would be to cut down these noxious plants before they flower, and turn them to useful account by converting them into manure, instead of suffering them to remain and exhaust the soil, obstruct and impoverish the crops, and annually to propagate a constantly increasing progeny of the same pernicious race.

From the several principles, then, here laid down, we may derive the following conclusions:

First—That, however fertile and well prepared a soil may be, it cannot be made to produce a long succession of crops of the same kind without becoming exhausted.

Second—Every crop impoverishes the soil more or less, and just in proportion as the plants cultivated return to it in their remains a greater or less amount of nutriment.

Third—The culture of plants having long, perpendicular roots should be made to succeed that of those with spreading and superficial roots.

Fourth—We should avoid a too frequent return of plants, either of the same or analogous species, on the same soil. All the different insects which prey upon the neck of the root of the cereal plants, and which multiply almost to infinity, when in the same soil they are presented with the same or with analogous species of plants for many years in succession; whereas these same insects are all made to perish whenever such plants as do not furnish the necessary aliment to their larvæ are introduced in place of grain.

Fifth—Two different kinds of plants, both tending to foul the soil, should not immediately succeed each other.

Sixth—Plants which derive their principal nourishment from the earth should be cultivated only in such soils as are sufficiently enriched by manures.

Seventh—In proportion as a soil becomes exhausted by continual cropping, those plants should be cultivated which give back to it in their remains the greatest quantity of manure.

The principles here stated have been abundantly confirmed by experience, and they constitute the basis of an agriculture rich in products and economical in the highest degree, from the great saving which t produces, both of labor and manure.

To recommend a particular rotation of crops without regard to the dissimilar nature and properties of soils would not be well, as each kind of soil demands a particular course of crops, and every farmer should arrange his system according to the nature and properties of the soil which he has to cultivate. Inasmuch as in each different situation soils will present some shades of dissimilarity more or less distinctly marked, according to their exposure, depth, condition, etc., the farmer should vary his cultivation in conformity to these differences, and adopt for each kind of soil the course of crops to which it is best suited. The wants of his own particular locality, the greater or less facility in getting his products to market, and the relative value of different crops should also influence him in forming his plans for cultivation. There is still another consideration which should be well weighed by the farmer before he decides upon his course of crops. Although his soil may be well adapted to a particular culture, his interest may, nevertheless, be opposed to the pursuit of it.

The more abundant a commodity is the more reduced it will be in price, and those articles should always be cultivated in preference which will command the readiest sale and afford the most remunerative returns. When, too, any product is not expected to be consumed upon the spot, the expense of its transportation to a market must be considered, and the facility with which it may be disposed of. The farmer should first make liberal provision for his domestic animals and his household before he thinks of raising any surplus products to be sent abroad.

He will therefore so arrange his system that his lands shall at all times present such a variety of crops as will ensure subsistence to all employed in or immediately dependent upon their cultivation.

The intelligent farmer will likewise endeavor as much as possible to diminish the labor and expense of transport in the culture and management of such of his lands as are remote from his dwelling; and with this object he will cultivate in preference on lands so situated either crops of fodder and roots that may be consumed by his animals upon the spot, or such herbaceous or other plants as may be converted into manure by being turned into the soil. He should be careful, also, in the treatment of such of his lands as are of a light and open character, and at the same time so situated as to have a considerable descent, to cultivate in them such plants only as will cover the surface with their numerous leaves, and the roots of which will bind together every part of the soil, so that it shall be protected as well from being washed away by the rains as from being dried up by the intense heat of the sun.

ANDREW H. WARD.

A HOME-MADE INCUBATOR.

Full Directions for the Home Manufacture of an Unpatented Hatcher.

I don't like home-made incubators, and I do not want to give directions for making them, but as several have, without the slightest regard for my feelings, asked for directions, why, they shall have them. They are not original with me, though where they were first published is more than I know. The first time I ever saw them they were in a letter from a friend. Get four boards, two of them each 4 feet long, 6 inches wide and 1½ inches thick; the other two each 2 feet 9 inches long, 6 inches wide and 1½ inches thick. Nail the ends firmly together, and you will have a box 4 feet long, 3 feet wide, 6 inches high, and minus both top and bottom. Cover the top of this with a lid made of inch boards, matched so they will fit like a duck's foot in the mud. Cover the bottom with a piece of zinc 4 feet long and 3 feet wide, nailing it on securely with three rows of small nails. This box is the heater.

For the Egg Drawer.

take two pieces each 4 feet long, 4 inches wide and 1½ inches thick, and two pieces each 2 feet 8½ inches long, 5 inches wide and 1½ inches thick; these four pieces nailed together form the sides of the egg drawer. Next cut 23 slats 35½ inches long and 1 inch square; nail these on the bottom of the egg drawer 1 inch apart. Next on the program and comes two slats each 4 feet 3 inches long, 1 inch wide and ½ inch thick, and two slats each 32 inches long and 1 inch square; mortise the ends of the ½ inch slats into the ends of the inch square slats. Now take some heavy cotton cloth, draw it very tight over this frame, and tack it on securely.

Lay this Frame, with the Cloth Bottom,

in the egg-drawer. The cloth side must be down for on the cloth the eggs are to be placed. Next cut 20 slats each 2 feet 11 inches long, and ½ inch square; then bore 20 holes ½ inch in diameter in each side of the egg drawer for the ends of these slats to go in. These 20 slats when in should be 1¾ inches apart (so the eggs can be between them), and should be down as close to the frame with the cloth bottom as possible and still allow room enough so that it (the cloth-bottomed frame) can be moved easily between the 20 slats and the slats that make the bottom of the egg drawer. When the eggs are between the ½ inch slats on the cloth you can, by moving this cloth-bottomed frame 2 inches back or forward, turn the eggs half over, or bottom side up.

The Ventilator Box.

Now make another box (of 1¼-inch boards) 4 feet long, 3 feet wide and 8 inches high, with a bottom of matched inch boards. Bore a dozen ½-inch holes in different parts of this bottom, and get 12 pieces of tin pipe, each 7 inches long and ½ inch in diameter, and put one in each of the 12 holes; when in they should extend up above the bottom 6 inches. These are ventilators. Fill this ventilator box with sawdust up to within 1 inch of the top of the pipes. Set the egg drawer on top of this ventilator box, and on top of the egg drawer set the heater. To fix these boxes so that the egg drawer will slide in and out, and the other boxes keep their position, take two boards, each 4 feet long, 12 inches wide and 1 inch thick, and nail one on each side of the heater and ventilator box, driving the nails into the heater and the ventilator box, but not into the drawer. Nail another inch board 3 feet long and 12 inches wide on the back end. The other end is left open so the drawer can slide in and out. Next take two pieces of scantling, each 4 feet 4 inches long, lay them down where you want your incubator to stand, and set the incubator boxes on them so that the scantling will extend 8 inches on each side. Get two boards each, 4 feet 8 inches long and 8 inches wide, and lay one on each side on the scantlings for

A Bottom to the Sawdust Box

which is to surround the incubator. Now make one end and two sides of a box, or frame, to set in the bottom prepared for the sawdust box. This box, or frame, must be 26 inches high, the sides 4 feet 8 inches long, and the end 4 feet 4 inches long. Set this frame over the incubator and nail it to the bottom. Make a close-fitting door for the front end. Get two pipes made to suit the chimneys of your lamps. Any common lamp will do. Have the pipes made so as to slip the lamp chimney up into the pipes snug. The pipes should be 12 inches long, then an elbow, then six inches more pipe. Make a hole the size of the pipe in the outside box, eight inches from the front end and 10 inches from the top; then make a hole the same size in the heater (the box with the zinc bottom), eight inches from the front end and two inches from the top; slide the 12-inch part of the pipe through the hole in the sawdust box into the hole in the heater, leaving the elbow and the six-inch part of the pipe

Pointing Down for the Lamp Chimney

to be put in. Put the other pipe in the same way on the other side in the opposite hind corner. After lighting the lamp, the chimney should be pushed as far up the pipe as possible without making the lamp smoke. If the lamp smokes lower it a little. Get six pipes three-quarters inch in diameter, and 15 inches long; bore six holes in the top of the heater, three on each side opposite to where the heating pipes enter the heater. Bore the first hole three inches from the corner, the second 12 inches from the first and three inches from the outside; the third 12 inches from the first, and three inches from the outside; put the other three the same way on the opposite hind side; put in the pipe and slide them down to within half an inch of the zinc bottom. These little pipes are meant to draw the heat from where it enters to the opposite side and distribute it equally throughout the heater.

If the Lamps Go Out

when the egg-drawer is moved in and out it is because the zinc bottom is too loose. To tighten it, bore a hole in the centre of the top of the heater and punch a hole in the zinc the size of the bolt you will use, then put in a bolt seven inches long with a head below, and tighten up until the zinc will not flop when the drawer is moved; then if you move the egg-drawer in and out gently (make the drawers so it will slide smoothly) the lamps will not trouble. After all this rigging is in where it should be, fill the sawdust box with sawdust, putting earth around the lamp-pipes, as the sawdust is liable to take fire. And right here let me tell you to have the lamp-pipes soaked together, as the heat from the lamp will probably melt solder.

Have Two Reliable Thermometers,

one in the front part of the egg-drawer, on the eggs, with the top a little higher than the bottom; and the other in a different part. Run your incubator a few days before you put the eggs in; then you will know about how far to turn the wick of the lamp up or down in order to keep the temperature as near 103° as possible. The third or fourth day after the eggs are put in, put two or three small pans of water on the sawdust under the eggs. Fill your lamp mornings and evenings, and see that the six escape pipes are at least half an inch above the zinc bottom, for if they get pushed clear down it shuts off the draft and the lamps go out. Look at the thermometers every two or three hours during the day, the first thing in the morning and the last thing before going to bed.—[Orange Judd Farmer.

All Crops but Cotton Better Than a Year Ago.

The report of the statisticians of the United States Department of Agriculture emphasizes what is so generally known and appreciated in the United States concerning our large yields of grain. The wheat yield of the country is greater this year than any of the previous 13, averaging 15 bushels per acre. The year showing the next highest average was 1879, when 13.8 bushels per acre were grown. Never has there been reported so many fields yielding 30, 40, and even 50 bushels per acre as this year. There has been an increased acreage in the regions best adapted to wheat growing, and a decided reduction in the poor wheat regions of the South. The average yield per acre of corn is not yet at hand, but the condition throughout the country has been very high during the latter part of the season, and the husking, not yet finished, may increase the yield beyond what is now looked for. The early condition of oats was less favorable than later ones, the outlook continuing to brighten as the season advanced. The yield per acre is placed at 29.3 bushels, which compares favorably with the 19.8 bushels of last year.

The acreage of barley is the largest ever sown, and the yield is 25.8 bushels per acre, nearly two bushels better than the normal average. Rye yielded 14.4 bushels per acre, which is more than two bushels better than the normal; last year it yielded but 11.8 bushels. Potatoes have grown well, having an average condition of 91.3. Comparing this with the condition of the former years, in estimating the yield from this, it seems certain that the average cannot be far from 90 bushels per acre. Last year it was only 57.5 bushels. Cotton alone appears to have yielded less than last year. The condition of this crop is given at 75.7, as against 80 last year. Besides this, the crop was damaged about two weeks, which also reduced the yield. The acreage of flax has been largely increased in the last year or two, due to the higher prices obtainable for the seed. Flax is essentially a new land crop. In 1840 Virginia grew the most flax seed, in 1870 Ohio, in 1880 Illinois, in 1887 the Territory of Dakota, and in 1890 South Dakota had the greatest acreage, though Minnesota had the largest yield. Now Virginia has less than 200 acres devoted to this crop, and New York and Illinois less than 5000 acres each. The yield this year was 8.01 bushels per acre, which at the present selling does not make a paying crop, and unless the fibre can be used more extensively, the amount of land devoted to its cultivation will doubtless decrease.

The Dairy and Ice House.

The use of ice in the dairy, then, depends on this fact, that it absorbs 142 degrees of heat in melting; by this is meant that 142 pounds of water or milk, or anything else, will be cooled one degree by the melting of one pound of ice. Or 14 pounds of milk will be cooled 10 degrees, or 10 pounds will be cooled 14 degrees, and yet the ice will be still at a temperature of 32 degrees. Thus a further cooling effect is gained equal to the difference in the temperature of the ice and the milk. For instance, if the milk is, let us say, reduced to 50 degrees by the melting of the ice, a further effect is produced until the water of the ice, and the milk, are of equal temperature. It is easy to calculate, then, exactly how much ice will be necessary to cool any given quantity of milk from 60 or 70 degrees to 45, which is the normal temperature in the cold deep setting of the milk.

Now, as to the proper storage of ice for summer use, we have to consider only how to prevent the contact of the warm air of the summer, and the icehouse must be made and secured with regard to this protection. Anything that will prevent the cooling of any substance will equally prevent the warming of it, and what needs to be done is simply to take such precautions as will keep out the warm air, and prevent the warmth from penetrating the building. This brings us to the proper construction of an icehouse.

The requisites are few and very simple. First, the foundation must be free from water, which, from the foregoing remarks, it will be easily seen is a very effective agent for the melting of the ice. It must also be perfectly closed against the entrance of air, second, the walls must be air-tight, so that no air may reach the ice. They are rendered so by making them double with some porous filling, as sawdust, between them. The manner of building is exactly the same as that of a silo. The inner wall should be made as tight as possible, and for the better security a layer of tarred roofing paper should be placed between the double boards of the inner wall. Third, as to the roof (and here we have to consider what has been said above in regard to the cooling effect of evaporation), every person knows how cool the hand or the body becomes when it is wet, even with warm water, when exposed to a draft of air. This cooling is due to the evaporation of the moisture from the skin, and the same effect is produced in the icehouse when the dampness in the covering over the ice begins to evaporate when a current of air passes over it. Here I have to differ, on the very best grounds, from the expert above referred to, who says this is all wrong, and that the covering on the ice is warmed by the latent heat of the ice, and helps to melt it. Every person has seen a lot of snow remaining for a long time in the spring when it is covered by earth or leaves. Without the covering, it would have melted long before. This also applies to the covering of the ice in the house and the manner of roofing the latter. The roof must be tight against the rain—that is all. It is better that gables should be, in good part, open, to give play to all the air currents that may be over the covering on the ice, on account of the coolness thus produced by the evaporation of the moisture. This covering may be of any porous material, tan bark, dry sawdust, dry swamp muck or finely broken charcoal, but it must not be so loose or open—like straw or hay—as to permit the air to pass through it, for as the air is very absorbent of heat, its contact with the ice would melt the latter very rapidly. In the construction of an icehouse, therefore, all that is necessary is to conform to these conditions and principles, and the details may be just such as may suit the taste or the convenience of the builder. I have seen ice stacked just as hay is, and covered with sawdust and then with straw, to shed the rain, and it has kept well all through the summer.

These facts are of surpassing interest, as showing how beautifully the laws of nature are adapted to the stability of things. If it were not for the complete destruction of everything by the instant liberation of the vast floods that would be set free from the accumulated snow and ice. And without the slow absorption of heat in boiling water, the water would suddenly explode when it reached the boiling point and blow everything to destruction.—[Henry Stewart in Rural New Yorker.

Cultivation of Corn.

Bulletin No. 14 of the Missouri Experiment Station (Columbia) is devoted to a report on experiments with corn made in 1890. In these experiments a trial of deep and shallow tillage gave an increase of over 14 bushels per acre, or 21 per cent. of the entire yield, in favor of shallow tillage in 1889, and nearly 13 bushels, or 30 per cent. of the yield in 1890. The implement used for shallow tillage was made expressly for this experiment, and has a number of knives running an inch or more under the surface, loosening the soil and effectually destroying the weeds in its path, but not lifting the soil sufficiently to cover the weeds in the hill, unless quite small.

The Illinois Experiment Station at Champaign has made similar experiments, in which the average increase in favor of shallow culture was nearly eight bushels per acre over a series of three years.

The Ohio Experiment Station has conducted similar experiments, using a cultivator not so well adapted to the purpose as the one described, but with results also in favor of shallow tillage.

The Missouri bulletin, already quoted, also reports a series of experiments instituted for the purpose of determining the most profitable amount of culture for corn. The results of these experiments, and they are in harmony with similar tests made at the experiment stations of Illinois, New York and Ohio, indicate that nothing is gained by cultivating incessantly. If the weeds are kept down, and the ground is cultivated sufficiently to prevent a hard crust forming, two or three workings will produce as large a yield as half a dozen.

Feeding Coarse Fodder.

At a recent New York dairy-school meeting the question was asked: "Should farmers feed their coarse or coarsest fodder at the beginning of winter?" Such is usually the practice. But Mr. Powell very sensibly replied: "I think it is a mistake to do so. My own opinion is, we should feed our best food to our cattle and sheep when they first go into the stables in the fall." Mr. Ives added: "That is true of sheep; they are a delicate animal, and the first month of winter is a trying and important one with them, especially for young lambs. If they must be fed coarse fodder, give it to them later—January or after." This is common sense and fully in accord with science. In shifting from grass to hay, something like a gradual change should be made, and not only good nutritious food be fed, but silage or roots or some bulky food with it. If the food is coarse and innutritious, enough fine and concentrated food should be fed along with it to furnish sufficient nutrients to sustain the animal system without too much distention of the stomach and bowels; and a due balance should be preserved between the carbonaceous or heating elements and the nitrogenous or muscle and tissue-producing elements. The colder the weather, if the animal is exposed to it, the more carbonaceous material is required to keep up the heat of the body. But to get enough of one kind of element, the animal should not be compelled to consume an excess of the other kind, thus clogging the system with what is not needed and must be worked off at the expense of the vital energy; nor must some portions of the organism go without sufficient nutriment to repair waste in order to avoid excess of other kinds of nutriment that go to nourish other parts of the organism. A due balance must be preserved to avoid waste and promote the most healthful conditions of the animal. Hence it is all wrong to begin in the fall to feed all cornstalks, straw and other carbonaceous foods for the purpose of having all clover and other nitrogenous foods to feed in the winter. For in this case both kinds of food are not only out of season, but should be mixed so as to give the most carbonaceous elements to the coldest weather, and the greater proportions of nitrogenous elements in the warmer weather—just the reverse of what is the common practice.—[Mirror and Farmer.

Feeding Value of Whey.

Four trials were conducted at the Wisconsin experiment station during the fall of 1890-91 for the purpose of ascertaining the value of sweet whey for pig feeding. The results of these trials show:

First—We are not successful in maintaining pigs on whey alone.

Second—Pigs fed on corn meal and shorts with water required 552 pounds of the mixture for 100 pounds of grain.

Third—When whey was added to the corn meal and shorts mixture it produced a marked saving in the amount of grain required for 100 pounds of gain, the mixture varying from two pounds of whey to one of grain up to 10 pounds of whey to one of grain.

Fourth—It was found when using whey as a partial substitute for grain, that 760 pounds of whey effected a saving of 100 pounds of the grain mixture, the only sure evidence that we can have that one breed will be able to effect improvement in another is that furnished by actual demonstration. Tried by this test, the Shropshire Downs have been found eminently adapted to the purposes of improving the average foundation stocks in the United States for mutton. This in part accounts for the great increase in the numbers of the Shropshires in America during recent years, and also for their amazing popularity. These facts are all the more remarkable when we reflect that the Shropshire Downs in their improved form are one of the newest of the breeds. This fact emphasizes two things, viz., that antiquity may easily be overvalued, and that excellence of breeding is really of more account than antiquity of breeding. It also shows us that in one short century, or less, any breed may be rendered highly pre-potent. The great matter, then, in selection is high excellence in the near ancestry rather than in that which is remote. The Shropshire Down has been found to blend admirably with merino grade stocks. It covers the bony framework with plump and juicy meat. It widens the body and makes it deeper and thicker throughout. It removes the narrowness of chest development, which is fatal to robustness of constitution. It sends wrinkles and folds to the skin and undue thrustiness to the winds in one or two generations. It imparts a vigorous digestion, without which profitable feeding and early maturity are impossible; and it does all this without lessening the value of the fleece. It also blends admirably with grade Leicester sheep, by increasing their hardihood and improving the quality of the meat by intermingling the fat and lean. These facts, linked with the undoubted demand for mutton sheep in the days that are already come, speak hopefully for the future of the Shropshire Down. On the assumption that only one-fourth of the rams used in up-grading were of this breed, it would be a safe estimate to assume that 60,000 rams would be required annually for a term of years.

Cape Cod Cranberries.

An article in Garden and Forest says that these cranberry bogs furnish a striking example of what long years may accomplish, specially in economic horticulture—with intelligent enrichment of the soil, close attention to every cultural detail, constant watchfulness against weeds and insects, frosts and fungi, they produce 150 bushels to the acre of solid, evenly colored berries, or a bushel for every square rod. The land is prepared for this crop with a smooth sanded surface inches thick, or with more than 400 cubic yards, and at a cost per acre of $250 to $1000—followed by a network of trailing plants and leaves—and afterwards for successive years with berries so full on the branches that one can hardly run his fingers under them anywhere without pulling out a handful from among the thick leaves. The pickers, together by the hundred, receive a dime each for every six-quart measure, and sometimes a superintendent receives from Boston by express several thousand dollars in ten-cent pieces to be paid the pickers.

Selecting Orchard Trees.

A writer in the London Garden makes the just remark that where owners make the mistake of planting too many kinds few set too few, and adds no one should plant any additional or untried sort however much it may be praised, before proving its adaptability to the soil in which it has to grow. Among the many inquiries which we receive for advice in making selections nearly all are relative to some new or untried variety with a laudatory name, and which may probably be of some value when proved in future years. The advice which we are always disposed to give such inquiries is: "Keep clear of new and lauded fruits, unless it is to try a single specimen of each sort, and order your main planting of old, well-proved, standard varieties. Nearly all the new and highly praised fruits will be forgotten before many years have passed away." We have just been conversing with an intelligent planter, who purchased a few years ago 300 trees of a highly lauded pear, the trees bore this year, and he could not engage a man to gather up the crop on shares, and the fruit was so poor in quality that although some were seen with marks of the teeth, none were eaten.

The Duck House.

Keep the floor of the duck house well covered with cut straw. The ducks will not thrive on a damp floor. They may sport on the water during the day, but nothing injures them so quickly as damp sleeping places. They become lame, being subject to rheumatism, and will not lay unless they are warm and comfortable. To secure the best results they should begin laying in January.

Killing Animals for Home Use.

The annual butchering was one of the great events of the year on the farm within the memory of those who are yet called young. Its importance has been much lessened. One cause contributing to this is the greater use of fresh meat on the farm nowadays. Forty years ago the annual butchering provided a supply of cured meat for a year; a bite of fresh meat was a rare treat. Now poultry is eaten freely, a sheep is killed occasionally, and the season of fresh beef and pork is lengthened by exchanges with neighbors. This partial change from cured to fresh meat is beneficial and commendable. The second cause of the decadence of the annual butchering—the increased purchase of cured meats—is not so certainly commendable. It is true that if killed and cured at home butcher more economically than we can on the farm, and that they get their profit by utilizing those parts that we cannot; but when we sell them our live animals and buy their cured meats, transportation both ways must be paid, and we probably pay more for the meat that we sell than for that cured at home. Further, when we do our own butchering we may know what we are eating. The big packing establishments are kept scrupulously clean, it is true; but many diseased animals are put on the market, and the buyer cannot detect their diseased condition. Every one, however, must know that it is not so very uncommon for a herd of hogs to be rushed to Chicago when "cholera" has broken out among them. If we buy cured meat it may be from a diseased animal. If we kill our own meat, we may know that it is wholesome.

Fifth—Using these figures, if corn meal and shorts are valued at $12 per ton, then whey is worth eight cents per 100 pounds; at $15 per ton for the corn meal and shorts, whey would be worth 10 cents per 100 weight.

Sixth—Shorts, pea meal and oil meal, or like feeds, should be mixed with whey for growing animals. Some corn may be fed at all times, the proportion increasing as the animal approaches maturity.

The Apiary.

In compliance with a promise made to the members of our State Beekeepers' Society, I now give my favorite mode of artificially swarming bees for judicious increase and profit. This, of course, depends much on the condition of the stock, which should be full of brood and worker bees, as if they were to be left to swarm the old or natural way as our fathers used to do. This condition can be readily known in several ways. First, we usually find them quite well supplied with drones, which come out to play late in the afternoon; we can also know by opening a hive that is full of bees and brood, with a good, prolific queen as they are laying eggs in the brood frames. You may also find quite a number of drone cells celled over in the combs, all of which are requisite for the welfare of the future or new swarms. One can now examine the frames of brood, and when we find the sheet or frame on which the queen is busy laying eggs, lift it carefully out and hang in the new frame of same size and pattern, replacing the vacant space in the full swarm with a new frame; if filled with good empty comb so much the better. Now close up both hives and move the old stock to a new location, then place the new hive with the one frame of brood and queen where the old stock stood. This will equally prevent the warming of it, and what needs to be done is simply to take such precautions as will keep out the warm air, and prevent the warmth from penetrating the building. This brings us to the proper construction of an icehouse.

We come now to notice the old hive that was moved one rod to make the artificial swarm as above mentioned. At the end of eight or nine days we can with safety cut out several queen cells and insert one or more in any other stock or stocks that may be queenless. If desirable you can make other new stocks by taking a frame or two from strong ones and requeen all new or artificial swarms, saving much valuable time. Always leave one or two queen cells in the old stock so that they may hatch and raise a queen for themselves. We would further add that it will be best to save all of the best empty or old combs in order to refill empty or new frames for the bees, saving much valuable and precious time for the bees, as well as many pounds of the best honey, which is always gathered in the forepart of the season. Look well to the bees.—[Correspondence Germantown Telegraph.

Improvement of Mutton.

In seeking to improve the mutton qualities of sheep two things must be considered, viz., the improvement of those qualities without lessening the value of the wool, and the breed or breeds best adapted to the purpose. Now it is a fact that in the improvement of live stock some breeds do not answer as well as others. A breed that will effect improvement when crossed upon another breed pure or nearly so, in one instance, may fail to do so in another. Owing to some mysterious lack of affinity in dominant properties they fail to blend harmoniously. The only sure evidence that we can have that one breed will be able to effect improvement in another is that furnished by actual demonstration. Tried by this test, the Shropshire Downs have been found eminently adapted to the purposes of improving the average foundation stocks in the United States for mutton. This in part accounts for the great increase in the numbers of the Shropshires in America during recent years, and also for their amazing popularity. These facts are all the more remarkable when we reflect that the Shropshire Downs in their improved form are one of the newest of the breeds. This fact emphasizes two things, viz., that antiquity may easily be overvalued, and that excellence of breeding is really of more account than antiquity of breeding. It also shows us that in one short century, or less, any breed may be rendered highly pre-potent. The great matter, then, in selection is high excellence in the near ancestry rather than in that which is remote. The Shropshire Down has been found to blend admirably with merino grade stocks. It covers the bony framework with plump and juicy meat. It widens the body and makes it deeper and thicker throughout. It removes the narrowness of chest development, which is fatal to robustness of constitution. It sends wrinkles and folds to the skin and undue thrustiness to the winds in one or two generations. It imparts a vigorous digestion, without which profitable feeding and early maturity are impossible; and it does all the same preliminary handling in bran were all spoiled after four months.

Eggs packed in sal

NEW CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Pure Mince Pie is No Longer Horrifying.

Try Salad Oil Instead of Lard or Other Shortening.

Plum Pudding with a Basis of Oatmeal and Fruits.

A DELIGHTFUL woman, known to the wisest and wittiest circles about Boston, tells how she was brought up, after the straightest traditions of New England nurseries, to regard mince pie with holy horror as the most dangerous thing she could eat.

When 8 years old she was tempted by a kind neighbor to eat a piece, and lived six weeks afterward hourly expecting to fall dead from its mysterious effects.

Mince meat ought to be extremely wholesome for the same reasons that make it good to eat—its flavors of sweet and sour, of meat, apple and spice, which relieve each other, and its finely divided particles, which allow the choicer blending of flavors, and save the stomach much of the grinding which reduces food to the pulp in which it enters the blood.

What gives mince pie its ill-repute as the very spawn of nightmare are its overdressing with suet and butter, only fit for polar consumption, and its drugging with spices.

Spice is the very food of the nerves, rightly used, growing more essential as circulation and sense dull with age. But it should be delicately, discerningly used not to lose its potency.

The overdressing with fat is a remnant of the old English barbarism which stewed its food in tallow, and as the old play has it, "took two fat wethers to baste one capon."

Housekeepers of note have vied in the richness of their recipes for mince pie; let mine be the plainest formula which yet meets the demands of taste.

Making Mince Meat.

Economical cooks make mince meat of beef's heart, by itself a dry, tallowy morsel, but with the thick fat pared away before cooking, and the juicy flank strips cooked with it; and both boiled down in the broth, you have an inexpensive foundation, which, minced, is as rich as tongue or the high-priced pieces, tenderloin, fillet or round, which extravagant cooks like to use.

The fat is taken off, the rich liquor of the meat boiled down to gravy and added to the mince. One quart bowl of chopped meat to three of apple is the rule, and with this neither suet, butter, brandy nor wine is used. The fat is left out because it is not good for food, the wine and brandy for economy's sake.

Baldwin apples are used, with one quince to the four bowls of mince, one lemon and peel, two Havana oranges, chopped, the peel boiled tender and very finely cut, half a cup of cider jelly, two cups of raisins, one of currants, a tablespoonful of cinnamon, two nutmegs and a teaspoonful of cloves, one coffee cup of sugar.

The juice of the meat gives richness, instead of suet. In place of the wine and brandy, what? One-half cup of the best Porto Rico molasses, not syrup, one large cup of strong tea and one-third teaspoonful of cayenne pepper. This dose, the invention of a clever cook who mixed her dishes "with brains, sir," gives a zest that is a fair imitation of brandy and aids digestion.

When the pies are made one teaspoonful of butter in small bits is spread over the mince before putting on the upper crust. This mince has not an indigestible ingredient in it, while the flavoring is very rich.

The Pastry for the Pie.

Now for pastry: Fine flour mingled with oil has been a regale ever since patriarchal times, when Sarah set cakes before the angels at the door of Abraham's tent.

We were meant to like it and to eat it. If instead of the pale brown flour mingled with olive oil and baked on the hearth, which Sarah used, we prefer a paste of starchy flour and animal fat which no juices of the stomach can dissolve any more than they could pieces of glue, it is our own mistake.

My own family have gone back to the primitive pastry of Mamre, not from any superstitions about the injuriousness of pastry in itself, but because we like pie, and like the best kind of it.

For economy's sake we use the ordinary salad oil, which you eat in the salad dressings sold by the bottle, and find in the cruets of the best restaurants, which is pure peanut or refined cotton-seed oil, clear, odorless and tasteless almost.

This takes the place of lard or shortening in our cookery, from frying fish and fritters to making pastry. With whole wheat flour or any fine grades of graham, it gives the sweetest flakiest pastry ever eaten.

Try it, with brown flour or white, using one part oil to three parts flour, with ice water, salt and a pinch of baking powder.

Never roll out crust for more than one pie at a time, as handling toughens any paste, but brush the top with milk on putting it in the oven, which should be hot enough to bake it thoroughly in a little over 10 minutes.

There is not the slightest trace of oil in the pastry, which is more delicate than if made with sweet butter.

Plum Pudding That Will Digest.

Plum pudding is another wholesome food that no careful family should be without in winter, combining as it does the heat-making and strengthening elements of fat, flour and raisins, which are the most sustaining fruit in the world.

One might go marches on as light rations as Cæsar's army in Gaul if three handfuls a day were nuts and dried grapes instead of raw wheat. I doubt the famed legions hadn't more than cereal food in a country of olives and vineyards.

Blend the three, the cereal, the oil, the raisin and you have strong food for building bone that will not shatter with falling over a chair, and teeth whose brilliant enamel will show no flaw at 60, for supplying the unceasing activity of brain which modern life compels, with double strength sent by the currents from untaxed stomach and liver, supple, free working skin, and veins that beat even music.

There is spice which feeds the nerves and excites the glands before a mouthful of soup could be absorbed, and whose effects deserve closer study and more justice than they have yet obtained.

The basis of our plum pudding is the finest oatmeal, almost like flour, with a little oil, baking powder and the usual fruits, flavoring much with the aromatic Havana orange peel.

I don't recommend the oatmeal because it is healthy, but because it is nice. The fact is, it blends most delicately with fine flavors, and instead of being a nursery diet, or bolted before breakfast, it deserves the attention of gourmands.

Final Directions.

The coarser kind is richer than chestnuts as filling for turkey. Use cold boiled oatmeal and bread crumbs, with chopped oysters, sweet marjoram, sausage or any usual flavoring, especially celery, which gives a fine flavor to the bird, or put a pinch of ground caraway and dash of nutmeg with the sage and majoram if you want a new and foreign flavor of which the ingredients cannot be recognized.

By the way, dress your turkey and fill it over night to let the seasoning strike through it. This plum pudding to follow will be acceptable to the most exacting tastes whether cold wheat or oatmeal is used instead of bread crumbs, with finely ground suet or oil, and the spice, sugar, molasses and fruit as for mincemeat.

Plum pudding like this should be made the week before and grows better with age. But the aim of all this cookery talk is not to persuade you of the benefits of unbolted flour.

THE AUTHOR OF "ANNA MARIA'S HOUSE KEEPING."

Cure for Earache.

"I am afraid I have greatly interfered with my own practice," said a celebrated aurist, "by giving the following advice to many of my friends: At the first symptoms of earache let the patient lie on the bed with the painful ear uppermost. Fold a thick towel and tuck it around the neck; then with a teaspoon fill the ear with warm water. Continue doing this for 15 or 20 minutes; the water will fill the ear orifice and flow over on the towel. Afterward turn over the head, let the water run out and plug the ear with warm glycerine and cotton. This may be done every hour until relief is obtained. It is an almost invariable cure, and has saved many cases of acute inflammation. The water should be as warm as possible, but not too hot."

It's All in the Knot.

The very latest diversion in high-class neckwear, according to Clothier and Furnisher, is in the form of the four-in-hand self-tied scarfing, the fabric being in soft, yielding, but heavy woven all silk stuff. The especial feature is that the knot is made round rather than flat, and indented slightly toward the lower portion of the knot. When it can be effectually done the scarfpin is inserted in the centre of this indention.

REDFERN NOVELTIES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The sketches contributed by Redfern this week show two of the very latest styles, which may both be seen at Fifth av.

"Trimmed with Gray Fox."

This coat of smoke-colored ribbed cloth, trimmed with silver gray fox, is, though simple in the extreme, the most stylish thing which this season's fashion has produced. It is made semi-fitting and lined throughout with crimson silk. The sleeves are extremely loose and baggy at the shoulder, and the fur collar is very high and cosy.

"All the Rage."

The sack coat, better known as the garb of the London Bond st. idler than as the covering for a fashionable dame, is getting itself recognized in New York society. It is well introduced by Redfern, who vouches for its intense respectability, in fact for its "good style." Pretty it may not be, but there is no doubt that it is unique and stylish.

The sketch shows one of these coats with the back formed of a box plait the entire width of the back. The front is quite loose and straight, the sleeves are somewhat esthetic in cut, and feather trimming is used to trim the collar and sleeves.

It is made of figured hairy cloth. Redfern assures me that in Paris and London they are all the rage with the most stylish people.

LE BARON DE BREMONT.

FOR BOUDOIR AND PARLOR.

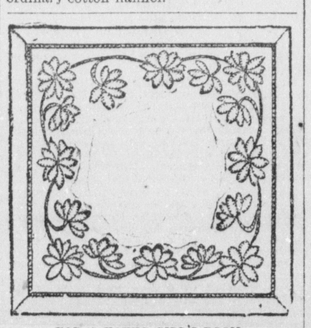
Table Covers of Sweet and Pure Tone and Telling Effect.

COVER which is specially well suited to a young girl's room is made of baby-blue linen. The hem, which is four inches wide, is turned up on the right side, and is finished with a couching of heavy white linen floss. Above the hem the design is first drawn or stamped, and is then couched on all its outlines with floss like that which finishes the hem.

The cloth is sweet and pure in tone, and of eminently serviceable material, and its very simplicity recommends it to the highest taste. It is well suited to any room of dainty coloring, but, as its traits are peculiarly suggestive of youth, it belongs by natural selection to the room of a maiden fair.

IN BROCADE SILK.

A second cover, at once elegant and easy of execution, is made of satin brocade. That is, of brocade of satin figures in the background of silk of the same color. Each figure is outlined with fine gold thread, and here and there an occasional one is darned, fish-scaled or filled with some other fancy stitch worked in gold. The edge is finished with a band of velvet, one shade darker than the silk, and the whole is lined with ordinary cotton flannel.



FOR A YOUNG GIRL'S ROOM.

The effect of a tiny line of gold is to give great brilliancy to the cover, and, as the work is simplicity itself, it can safely be undertaken by the least expert of needlewomen.

SOME PARIS DRESSED DOLLS.

Suggestions for Those Who are Dressing Christmas Dolls—Glimpse at Some of Those in the Paris Exposition.

WHEN Christmas-time comes the doll holds its sway. The household in which there is no doll to dress is about as forlorn a household as the world can offer.

And so, since it will be the day of the doll from now on, in half the households in the land, this description of some of the most famous of the famous Paris dolls at the exposition will be of special interest and suggestion.

In a great glass case inclosing a miniature representation of a corner in the Luxembourg Garden were the wonderful dolls, and about the case stood always old and young, rich and poor, wearing the garb and speaking the language of various countries, envying, admiring and criticising.

For myself I wished, oh, I wished so hard that I were a child again, and the possessor of one of those beautiful creatures.

They were so alive and they wore so gracefully, as might you or I, the beautiful dresses and hats that French doll-dress-makers had fashioned for them.

A Doll Concert.

In the centre of the case was a band stand in which a queer little man in blue coat and brass buttons directed an orchestra of gayly-dressed musicians. Garden chairs formed a semi-circle in front of the orchestra. It must have been a popular programme. Nearly every chair was occupied.

In the front row sat three dolls. They were as large as a 2 or 3-year-old child. The eldest, a violet-eyed, raven-haired beauty, was the chaperon, and now and then she seemed to reprove the mischievous blonde, whose smile made little holes in her pink cheeks. Mme. Chaperon was gorgeous in a green velvet gown, embroidered in peacock feathers, and a dashing Gainsboro hat with nodding plumes.

Long tan mousquetaire gloves defined her tapering fingers, and in one hand she held a quizzing glass. Her gown might have been made by Felix or Worth, so like the toilets of the grand dames of fashion was it.

A stately dame in Louis XIV. gown of old rose brocade and ancient laces, sat at Madame Chaperon's right. Her blonde curls glistened under the loveliest hat, all white, studded with pearls and garlanded with blush roses.

She carried a reticule, from which peeped a dainty lace handkerchief, and a Watteau fan dangled at her side. Her shoes—such shoes!—old rose brocade with great high heels.

The merry little blonde, with dark eyelashes and eye-brows of real hair, was demurely robed in gray satin, embroidered in steel, a chapeaux of daises sat airily on her frizzy head, while her pink cheeks rested coquettishly on a great bouquet of the same flower.

A Doll in a Brown Study.

At the end of the second row of chairs was a beautiful, sad-eyed doll, in lavender mull, sprinkled with violets, and the same sweet blossom encircled her tiny bonnet.

The music had evidently carried her to brown-study land, much to the delight of two rollicking dolls, who poked fun at her by turning up their little noses very saucily.

Picturesque nurses, beautiful mothers and pretty children strolled here and there among the trees; a little fairy with long Titian curls rolled a hoop.

In a jaunty sailor suit a little boy wheeled a cart filled with sand and shells. Two little boys in Highland suits and knickerbockers were quarreling over a game of marbles. The corn man, in white apron and baker's cap, with a queer, long, round boiler on his back, from whose leather straps dangled cups, did not ring his bell or cry in vain:

"Cocoa! Cocoa! Two sous a glass!"

A crowd of thirsty dolls followed him everywhere. Then there was an exquisite doll in white—shoes, hat, gloves to match—who sped round the garden on a velocipede, a group of gossiping dowagers in red, green and yellow gowns, wondrously fashioned, shone resplendent under parasols of lace, from whose tops and handles floated great bows of ribbon or bunches of flowers.

The French Nurse.

Near by a garden seat stood a bonne in great white apron, long blue peasant cloak and smart Normandy cap, from which floated, nearly touching the ground, the loveliest wide blue ribbon.

She was talking to her lover, a little chap wearing the blue, baggy breeches, ill-fitting coat and cockade cap of the French soldier, while the baby had rolled off the garden-seat and lifted pitifully its little face with two great tears rolling down its cheeks.

I could hardly believe that they were only dolls, so real it all seemed. Such a picture of life one may see daily in the real Luxembourg Gardens, where the French children play—the boys sailing boats in the basins of the fountains, the girls playing "keep house" with dolls less pretty, less costly than these, but just as dear, I am sure, to the little French girls.

"I wonder how much all this cost?" I said aloud to myself one day, as I stood before the case.

"Eighteen thousand dollars and six months' labor," said a sharp French voice at my elbow. "We sell them to Americans, for the greater part."

And so it is the happy American whose dollars can buy such creatures as these, but—shall I tell you a secret?—I would rather have Polly, my old rag doll.

LIDA ROSE MCCABE.

NICE FOR "CENTRAL."

The Office Boy Who Runs the Paper Bothers Her.

[New York Commercial Advertiser.]

The woman who figures as "Central" over the telephone wire is a much enduring and long-suffering person, but the straw of aggravation which generally manages to break the back of her good temper is supplied by a new office boy on one of the big afternoon papers.

He is a nice lad, with a shining morning face and that strong sense of irritating humor which belongs to all properly constructed office boys. When the editor is out at lunch he dives into the telephone closet and a monologue something like the following generally ensues:

"Hello! hello!! hello!!! What's the matter, Central? Ah, there, Gussie"—imitates prolonged osculation—"What do I want? Gimme somethin' easy. Say, you're a sight this mornin'; I don't like the way you put up your hair. Who am I? No, you don't, I'm on to you. You want to complain."

"Get off that wire! Get off there, and wait till I get through!"

"Oh, Gussie, who's the dood that calls you up? Just connect me with him and I'll tell him he's no good to his face."

"Cut me off, will you? Just try it, and I'll ring you up till the bell busts. Have me discharged? You're talking through your hat. Say, if it wasn't for me they couldn't get the paper out. So long, Gussie. I'll call you up in half an hour and tell you the story of me life. By by! Over the river!"

Every time the manager rings up the editor to file a complaint against this genial youth he receives it himself, and assures the manager in an assumed voice "he'll attend to the young rascal at once." A brilliant criminal career has been unanimously predicted for him by those who know him best.

How Do You Pronounce "Hawarden."

The following examples give some samples of English, not as she is spoken, but as she is pronounced:

Abergavenny is pronounced Abergenny.
Beauchamp is pronounced Beecham.
Boilingbroke is pronounced Ballingbrook.
Brougham is pronounced Broom.
Bulwer is pronounced Buller.
Cholmondeley is pronounced Chumley.
Cirencester is pronounced Sissister.
Cockburn is pronounced Coburn.
Colquhoun is pronounced Cohon.
Cowper is pronounced Cooper.
Grosvenor is pronounced Grovenor.
Hawarden is pronounced Harden.
Holborn is pronounced Hobun.
Knollys is pronounced Knowles.
Leicester is pronounced Lester.
Malorbank is pronounced Marchbank.
Marylebone is pronounced Marrabun.
Salisbury is pronounced Sawlsbry.
St. Leger is pronounced Silliger.
Wemyss is pronounced Weems.
Taliaferro is pronounced Tolliver.
Norwich is pronounced Norridge.
Talbot is pronounced Torbut.
Thames is pronounced Tems.

Necessity vs. Luxury.

[Detroit Free Press.]

Two bachelors, as bachelors are wont, were talking of getting married.

"Well," said one, "I want to get married but I'm poor and I haven't been able yet to find a girl with money that will have me."

"Aw, you make me tired," said the other. "What's the money got to do with it? What you want is a wife."

"That's all right, old man," protested the first, "but you see we've got to have the necessities before we proceed to the luxuries."

HER ROSE-WATERED ARMS.

Luxuries Seen in New York Society.

Dazzling Gowns at the Patriarchs' and Swell at Teas.

Memorable Day in the Life of a Gotham Bud.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Such an opening as it has been for the debutantes!

They have had things all their own way.

There have been blondes and brunettes, the bewitching happy medium and the Titian-haired beauty.

They made a lovely showing at the Patriachs', and the dainty French frocks they wore were distracting.

I am going to tell the readers of THE SUNDAY GLOBE about a well-known beauty whom I know, and whose lovely imported gowns I have seen. I may not tell you her

ANNE OF AUSTRIA COAT AT THE PATRIARCHS'

name, but will call her Stella, because Stella means a star, and she shines as such in New York society.

We will look in upon her at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, to find her leaning back in her chair among perfumed silken

STELLA IN NEGLIGE.

cushions in the most delicious of negliges of soft pink silk, with a plain full skirt and loose sack, falling over a blouse of creamy

STELLA'S ROMANOFF.

chiffon with billows of snowy lace falling down the front and out of the rather short, loose sleeves over her lovely round arms that Violette, her maid, has just polished with rose water.

Her next appearance is on the avenue at 10 o'clock. She is walking briskly, for it is the fad just now, you know, for the swell girls to ignore their stunning broughams and walk during their shopping.

Stella is in the triggest of tailor gowns, that fits with all the English perfection of its make. It has a straight, navy blue cheviot skirt, and a smart little overcoat of light coachman's cloth, just as swagger as

STELLA AT THE PATRIARCHS'.

her brother Jack's, with its strapped seams and all the other little things that go to make up a fashionable overcoat. Her linen collar and cuffs shine immaculately, and her red spotted scarf is very correct. She wears brick red gloves and a black Spanish hat, and is as dapper and well groomed from the tip of the cockade on her turban to the toes of her slender varnished shoes as the finest club swell in town.

At 1 o'clock Stella is in the midst of a fashionable luncheon at a Murray hill mansion. She is attired faultlessly in a Romanoff or Russian costume of oyster-white habit cloth, trimmed with royal Russian sable. Her small hat is a fetching affair of white felt edged with sable and plied up at the back with a mass of dark brown ostrich tips.

Her gloves are rough white skin with wide stitching and big silver buttons, and her pretty chin rests above a cravat of primrose chiffon.

Stella's next appearance is at the Patriarchs', where she shines in a Felix toilet of pink gauze with a satin coat of sweet pale blue, embroidered in gold and gems, and cut very low to show the dazzling whiteness of her fair young shoulders. The short puffed sleeves of gauze enhance the loveliness of her rounded arms and little pink elbows that her gloves do not reach in their folds.

Surrounded by admiring men, envied by the debutantes, she accepts it all with the graces of a queen.

MARIE JONREAU.

PEN EARNS FOR HER $5000 A YEAR.

Miss Charlotte Molyneaux Holloway, Author and Political Editor of the New London Daily Telegraph.

Charlotte Molyneaux Holloway enjoys the distinction of being the only woman editorially connected with a daily newspaper in the State of Connecticut.

For three years Miss Holloway has presided over the editorial columns of the New London Daily Telegraph, a morning newspaper of wide circulation in eastern and central Connecticut.

MISS CHARLOTTE MOLYNEAUX HOLLOWAY.

She is remarkable for her tenacity, perseverance and tireless energy. She is a great reader and a scholar of rare attainments. She has made herself proficient in the use of four languages and she has now set out to master Greek.

When you ask Miss Holloway her age, she will tell you that she was born in the later sixties. For definite information you are left to consult the oracle. By her face you would judge that she was not very far advanced into the twenties.

Quincy, Mass., was her birthplace, and she was the seventh child of a family of eight. In her childhood her parents moved to New London, where they have since resided.

She early developed a taste for literature. After graduating from the Young Ladies' high school at New London, with the proceeds from the work of her pen she paid the expense of three terms at the Boston Conservatory of Music.

At the age of 12 she began to contribute to the columns of local newspapers both poetry and prose, and in 1884 she contributed a short story to a Chicago paper. At that time she was assistant editor of the New London Day, which position she held until 1888, when she became chief editor of the Daily Telegraph.

She is a rapid writer, and turns out an abundance of short stories, sketches, poems, etc., besides performing her regular editorial work.

Her name is often seen in Godey's Ladies' Book, the Magazine of History, the Epoch, the Churchman, Housewife, Ladies' World, Home Cheer, Boston Budget and the New York Ledger.

She is now at work on an historical romance treating of Burr and Hamilton and their time, which she hopes to complete sometime in the coming winter.

In person Miss Holloway is an attractive woman of 5 feet and 5 inches, of a slender, almost slight build. Her well-shaped head is crowned with a wealth of dark-brown hair and her eyes are blue.

Miss Holloway's pen has made her known throughout the State, for she fights the political battles of the newspaper that she edits. She has a collection of interesting letters containing offers of marriage from unknown men, whom she terms "cranks," received during the last presidential campaign.

Regarding matrimony, she says that she shall devote her time to work and study for the next 10 years, and during that time she doesn't care to have a husband, for she should have no time to devote to him.

Miss Holloway says that she has found literary work very profitable, and is of the opinion that journalism and literary work offers a profitable field for women who have natural ability for it and who are willing to persevere.

Of the influence of literary people she is peculiarly independent. She says that she has met a great many successful writers, but she didn't care to fasten to them.

"Prominent literary people," she asserts, "are bored to the verge of endurance by beginners, so I have made it a rule to not add myself to the number."

Miss Holloway is distinctly a self-made woman, having been compelled to make her way in the world by the circumstances that surrounded her in her girlhood.

She now enjoys an income from the work of her pen that approaches very closely to $5000 a year.

WHAT TO MAKE OF CHAMOIS.

Powder Cloth and a Handkerchief Case —Some Mats.

A very economical remembrance for some maiden fair to see at Christmas is a chamois skin with which to dab the last hurried fluff of powder on her face and wipe it away again, as every woman does.

Place a medium-sized tea-plate upon a skin and draw a line around the plate upon the skin with a pencil. Next cut the circle out.

Finish the edge by scallops, pinking or needlework, and with pen and indelible ink letter the chamois, "Mislike me not for my complexion."

A small round powder bag, the size of a butter dish, made of batting cloth, with a narrow lace edge, and filled with starch powder, may go with the chamois.

Bows of pink ribbon may be fastened to both powder bag and chamois skin to hang them up by.

Pretty table mats, to put hot dishes on, may be made of chamois skin, fastened to a stiff foundation of pasteboard, cut round. When the mats are soiled they may be taken off the pasteboard and washed in warm soapsuds. Quotations may be lettered on the mats with indelible ink if desired.

Those who can etch with pen and indelible ink may finish the table-mats with a vine of hops or a conventional vine of olives instead of the fringe.

The vine is cut out in relief, thus forming the border to the mats. A pretty set of toilet-mats may be made by etching a border of nasturtiums or daisies around the mats.

A pretty watchcase is made of chamois skin painted to represent the front and back of a poppy (or daisy), and the two pieces button-holed together.

The same, with a thin layer of cotton and satchet powder inside, makes a pleasing satchet.

A monster pansy painted on chamois and cut out in relief, with the back of a pansy for the back of the case, and lined with yellow china silk, makes a pretty handkerchief case.

One side must be left open, so the handkerchiefs may be placed inside the pansy on the yellow silk lining.

A pretty book cover is made of chamois skin decorated in brown paint, in conventional design—the brown shading into the tone of the chamois skin and the pamphlet rolled as a scroll and tied with brown cord or ribbon.

MARY MAXWELL.

On the West Shore.

[Truth.]

Brakeman—I-o-na Isl-and.

Farmer Ponkhockin—Wall, he needn't be so sot up about it if he does. I calkerlate I own one er the finest farms in Uister county, but I don't go round braggin' about it ter folks that ain't no kin ter me, I'll be goldarned ef I do.

Worth Twice as Much.

[Judge.]

Bloobumper—How is it you ask $10 for this parrot and only $5 for that?

Dealer—The $10-bird can't talk, sir.

MADE OF STRAW MATTING.

Decorations at Home and for Home.

Useful and Ornamental Articles that Anybody Can Make.

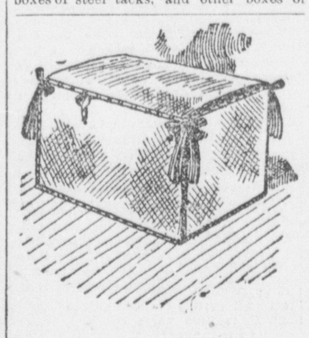
Surprising and Ingenious Results for Christmas.

THE finely woven straw matting which the skilful fingers of the Orientals make for the covering of tea-chests, or the bales of straw floor-cloths which every spring sees sent to our shores by the thousand, are worthy of a better fate than to be torn off and cast into the fire.

Get from your carpet man half a dozen of these covers, for which he will probably make no charge beyond a few cents for delivering.

Rip with care the coarse twine stitches which have held it in place, and throw the matting into a tub of water, letting it lie there 24 hours, by which time it will be found to be flexible to a surprising degree.

Have ready a large pair of tailor's shears, boxes of steel tacks, and other boxes of



A SHOE-BOX FOR A BEDROOM.

bright-headed brass tacks, a hammer, some strong glue, some bolts of gray tape, strong needles and linen twine, and some yards of fresh manila rope, neither too thin nor too heavy. The other needs will be suggested later on.

Let the first experiment be on a foot-stool or shoe-box. Select a box of suitable size, with a lid firmly attached by short leather hinges.

Cover the sides with a strip of the matting precisely as you would cover it with cretonne or chintz; hide the raw edges by tacking over them the gray tape.

Before covering the lid place a thick, even layer of cotton batting over the board, a precaution which will add greatly to the appearance of the box. Take the manila rope

A NEWSPAPER HOLDER.

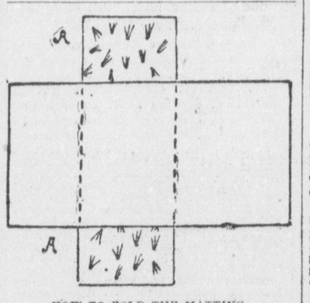
which by a little care can be found in a shade that harmonizes very pleasantly with the matting, and outline all the edges and corners of the box with it, using plenty of brass tacks.

At the corners nail on tassels, made by sewing the rope into a double upright loop and ravelling the long ends into a handsome fringe. The shoe-box is done, and a very dainty thing it is to stand beside your bedroom grate.

Cut a piece of matting 27 inches by 14 inches. Bind on the sewing machine with very wide gray tape.

Outline the tape on both sides with a strand, or better still, a double strand of rope, which is greatly improved by two coats of bronze paint.

Double back one-third of the strip, sew five brass crescents across the top, and with bronze paints, using two or three colors and



HOW TO FOLD THE MATTING.

outlining these with dark brown or olive oil color, paint some large scattered daisy-like figures.

On the pocket paint in large irregular letters the name of some favorite publication, and you have a secure place for your papers.

Everybody must be sick unto death of the beribboned plush photograph holders. Here is an idea, not only for photographs, but for the larger plates and engravings that accumulate so fast nowadays.

While the matting is very wet cut out a piece long enough to be folded in a three-fold case, allowing on all sides a very wide margin. This margin you must fold back and iron into place.

When nearly dry fold into three parts indicated in the figure here, leaving out of mind the figured flaps at the side marked A, which are to be added afterwards. Now place between plenty of old newspapers,

A SCRAP BASKET.

and under heavy weights to dry. When it is done, take some pretty Japanese cotton, stamped with gold figures.

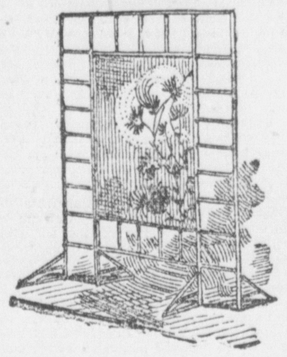
Cut a sheet of cotton wadding the exact size of the folded matting and gum over this the crepe, taking care that the gum be very strong and a quick dryer.

Attach to the top and bottom of the central fold neatly made flaps of the crepe, one-third the width of the portfolio. When these are dried gum in the lining, fold and tie with odd-looking gold cord.

For a scrap basket make a box like a huge muff box of pasteboard. Dampen and fold a piece of matting large enough to cover the box. Twine a gilded rope around it, at top and bottom, fastening each of these in as intricate a knot as your fingers can fashion and tacking them flatly in place.

No other decoration need be added, but if you care to paint some up-springing iris or some gay, trailing creeper, you will find that by using big brushes, plenty of paint, strongly marked shadows and firmly indicated lights, and by avoiding any effort at the production of delicate effects, the texture of the matting will prove a charmingly sympathetic surface.

Thin washes of shadow colors, rubbed in with a brush or the end of your finger, back of the flowers, will add much to the painting.



A SCREEN OF MATTING AND BAMBOO.

A last hint! You have by this time become so skilful in the handling of this humble material that you may attempt a grate screen.

For the frame, 24x40 inches, use the bamboo fishing rod, being careful to have the corresponding parts in equal sizes.

Stay the feet in the odd and pretty way the sketch suggests, and make free use of short stems as spindles.

Fill in the centre-panel with a sheet of matting, and on it paint some effective study—a flight of birds, a sheaf of deep-toned chrysanthemums, a bough of dogwood or a cluster of golden-rod.

DELAWARE.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY.

Shirley Dare Answers Several Questions on Care of the Hair and the Skin.

ALL reasonable questions on hygiene, personal culture and domestic affairs will be answered by Shirley Dare, who has already held converse with women in this way in well-known journals. No address can be given or private answers solicited. Outside these necessary hints inquiry is free. Letters may be sent in care of THE SUNDAY GLOBE, signature and address to be given, but not for publication.

To Whiten Gray Hair.

FAIR BROOKLINE.—No application can be depended upon for making gray hair white as you desire. Peroxide of hydrogen five to 10 times diluted may blanch it to a yellowish white, and a deep indigo water improve this to a clearer white, but neither can be trusted implicitly.

So many compounds enter into scalp and hair, the strength of chemicals is so easily varied by slight exposure that it is practically impossible to give more than hints for this most delicate process of bleaching hair on the living head.

It would be easy to injure hair, head and brain in the attempt. A course of pilocarpine is known to restore the color of the hair in some cases, but the drug should never be taken except under the advice of a physician.

Washing the hair daily in sea water, keeping it wet by wearing a flannel cap for two or three hours will sometimes act as a tonic, stimulating growth and color.

Again, sometimes it renders hair a uniform gray. Anticipating an inevitable question, a solution of sea salt, one tablespoonful to a pint of hot water, may have the same effect either way.

But the virtues of sea water are due, chemists say, to infinitesimal amounts of various salts which are hardly recovered by evaporation. It is best to use water bottled some distance out at sea, where it is pure from sewage and washings of the land.

The outer husk of hazlenuts, steeped and pressed in vinegar, is said to keep the hair dark, and the tea of the husks and leaves hinders its falling.

Trying to Win at 45.

MRS. G. R.—"I have forgotten the directions for taking charcoal and taraxacum for the complexion. My skin is red with blotches and pimples caused by internal inflammation; my daughter's is yellow and tawny. Here I am, at 45, with neither beauty, brains nor health, and, oh! so weary of the struggle!"

Answer—Take one teaspoonful of powdered charcoal, thoroughly mixed in water or syrup, the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. After meals take one teaspoonful to one dessert spoonful of the extract of taraxacum, keeping the feet warm and dry, and being careful not to take cold. Every fourth week omit the taraxacum.

After six weeks or two months, take the charcoal only in the morning, and when the skin is clear omit the extract by degrees. Forty-five is too soon to grieve over want of brains and health.

That is the term of infancy for three-fourths of human beings, and it is not at all too late to improve for a serene and happy age, more delightful than any rose and romance of youth.

Remember that one day you may be as far ahead of those you envy, in all attainments, as they seem ahead of you now.

Cultivate what minor talent you have, if it is only of keeping a tidy house and giving a neighbor cheerful, kindly greeting, and it will lead to more inevitably.

Refined Gall.

J. H.—"You say that beefgall diluted with warm water is good for whitening the skin. Kindly tell me if it is the oxgall you purchase from butchers, or do you buy it from drug stores refined?"

Answer—There is a refined gall sold, which is mixed with ether and other things for taking spots out of clothing, but it is hardly recommended for the skin. Refined gall may be prepared thus: Take fresh oxgall one pint, boil, skim, add a teaspoonful of alum, and keep it on the fire some time without boiling.

To another pint add a tablespoonful of common salt in the same manner. Bottle them separately for three months, then decant and mix in equal parts, the refined gall forming above a thick yellow sediment. One teaspoonful of this to a pint of hot water should be strong enough to use on the skin.

SHIRLEY DARE.

HOW TO MAKE GOOD COFFEE.

Dr. Cutter's Improvement on Count Rumford's Plan.

COFFEE had been introduced into England for about 150 years when Count Rumford wrote exhaustively on coffee making, and his text is fresh and crisp reading today. He used the porcelain or earthen coffee pot, and perforated earth en strainer placed on the top of the pot. Hot water was poured on and allowed to filter through.

An improvement has been made on Count Rumford's plan in substituting a cotton, cotton flannel or flannel bag for his perforated diaphragm of earthenware, which shortens the time needed to filter.

The best results are produced by having the coffee ground extra fine while it is hot and put in an air-tight receptacle. When a can of this ground coffee is opened its odor pervades the whole apartment, as the volatile oil has not a chance to escape.

In Hayti they roast, grind and use their coffee at once. But here are my rules:

First. Have the coffee good, fresh, ground very fine.

Second. Pour hot water into coffee pot, so as to heat it thoroughly before use.

Third. Put (for an ordinary family) a teaspoonful of coffee, prepared as above, into the bag placed at the top of the open heated pot.

Fourth. Pour on boiling water until a sufficient amount of coffee is made. Renew as required.

The process is one of displacement, such as is used in pharmacy. It is wonderful with what facility roasted coffee imparts its virtues to boiling water. Probably no fruit gives up its virtues so rapidly. A good cup of coffee can be made in one minute in this way.

Surely people who have poor coffee are without excuse when it can be made so quickly and simply.

EPHRAIM CUTTER, M. D.

MISS BLAINE HELPS MA,

And Miss Foster Goes to the Market.

Cabinet Girls the Talk of Washington Society.

How They Make Themselves Useful in Their Homes.

CABINET girl is forever at her mother's elbow or else standing temporarily in her mother's company shoes, and it also happens that not only are they in demand by the outside world, but are necessary to the home comforts of the family.

They do not receive half the credit that is due them, and a more capable, conscientious quintet of girls it would be hard to select.

The five who figure in this way are Misses Blaine, Foster, Wanamaker, Miller and Rusk. Mrs. Wilmerding is, of course, the head of Secretary Tracy's household, and is a cabinet lady, while Miss Wilmerding hardly figures as a cabinet daughter.

Mrs. Noble's household includes her sisters, who fill the position that a daughter would as far as social occasions go, and the War Department is as yet without a daughter.

Miss Blaine the Housekeeper.

The mothers of the quintet all pay tribute to their daughters, and each confesses that without her daughter she could not wade through cabinet life.

As the ranking daughters, comes Miss Blaine, who so often is called on to act as proxy for her mother. She is a regular New England girl in common-sense and intelligence, and if Miss Blaine had been placed in a position where her faculties were called on for bread and butter, the butter would have been thick and of superfine quality.

The charge of the household falls to a great degree on her shoulders, and it is a well-ordered home, where the first consideration is the peace and comfort of the secretary. The daughter not only looks after the house, but overlooks the purchasing of supplies, and on occasions even visits the stores herself to make sure all is right.

She manages to find time to read not only papers, but books; and well-informed men, such as Mr. Blaine receives, always consider the daughter a worthy descendant of the man from Maine.

Miss Foster Goes to Market.

Miss Foster, of course, is very necessary to the happiness of the home of the secretary of the treasury. She proved her capability when the secretary took the Payne house, and before the arrival of her mother Miss Foster had the large house in complete order, had settled the household goods sent from Ohio, had the servants in the house, and everything ready for Mrs. Foster to walk in and take comfort.

It doesn't make much difference what it is that happens. If it is a fallen ceiling, she knows which way to turn. If it is a sudden invasion of guests, she is ready to handle them. She is a sort of emergency girl.

Besides being a social assistant for Mrs. Foster, she lifts the cares of the house that relate to marketing and the general direction of servants. She goes to market and purchases the family joint with knowledge born of experience. When all these duties are over, and between times, she contrives to devote time to her favorite authors.

The secretary's wife had independent notions about the arbitrary prohibition of any class of reading or any author. As a consequence nothing was forbidden ground to the girls. At the same time good literature was placed before them in such quantities as to leave no time or taste for anything else.

Miss Foster accordingly

HOWARD'S LETTER.

The Closing Year Conspicuous For its Many Tragedies.

Balancing of the Political and Social Books Not Wholly Satisfactory.

Evils Which Afflict the Community Talked of in Plain Terms.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Twenty-three fatal railway accidents during the week now closing suggest a train of thought which may be of interest.

We near the close of a year, a year which, for many reasons so far as the past is concerned, must stand monumental.

New discoveries, useful application, whirlwindic storms, dire disasters on the sea and tornadoes on the land, significant deaths and wide-scoped national changes, marvellous advances in architectural novelty, normal upheavals among the sects, odd crimes, strange diseases and a noticeable slaughtering of the human race mark the highway along which 1891 has sensationally moved.

How will this strike you?

Our forefathers had no limited express trains running 60 miles an hour, ergo there were no railway accidents, no savage smashups, no cruel collisions. We are indebted to the enterprise of capital, and the industry of labor for marked advances in this branch of human effort during the past decade, and especially in this now closing year.

We go to sleep in a Wagner at 12 o'clock at night in New York, and have an all too early breakfast in Boston on the following morning; we jump on a car at 10 a. m., and ride easily, safely, pleasantly until the next forenoon, when the smoke of Chicago, obscuring the heavens, tells us we are in a totally different atmosphere and

Among a Pushing People.

Spurred by necessity or ambition we literally cross the continent in four days.

Do you remember the days of the railway restaurant, when the guard called, "Ten minutes for refreshment," and, through the snow or in pelting rains, bitten by the vicious bites of blasting blizzards, we rushed pell mell to the counter? Oyster soup was invariably too hot to be taken hastily, and, eight times in 10, was left behind for the next customer.

Tough doughnuts, doubtful eggs, bogus coffee, watered milk, cold plates, half-washed knives and forks, slatternly waiters, skinny chickens, leathery steaks were the provisions made for our entertainment.

Mark the contrast!

Now, in a dining car hauled along at the rate of 30 miles an hour, in a comfortable chair, at a table made attractive by snowy linen and modern cutlery, one can breakfast, lunch or dine, selecting from a menu equal to that of any first-class hotel such dishes as tempt the appetite or suggest one.

I don't know how these gentlemen manage to furnish such meals as they do for a dollar. Take your hotel bills of fare, and duplicate those furnished by the dining-cars, and you will find that from $5 to $6 would be the lowest figure for which you could obtain a meal furnished by the latter for $1.

That, however, is their business, and has nothing to do with the wonderful contrast afforded by the modern style of things, as against those which obtained on first-class roads for first-class service years ago.

Instead of sitting up all night, one can now retire with comparative comfort and sleep refreshingly.

That of itself is

A Vast Improvement,

although very, very far from what should be afforded by the price charged. The Pullman charges are excessive, extortionate—indeed, the policy seems to be that of niggardliness and suspicion. If one takes a lower berth without paying also for the upper, whether the upper is occupied or not it must be turned down, the passenger must be uncomfortable.

First, because by that course men are tempted to be extravagant and purchase the entire section; and, second, because the company doesn't trust its employes, notifies them in advance that they are regarded as so many thieves, who would steal if they had a chance, and therefore every protection is taken to prevent their betraying the confidence of their employers.

There is room for vast improvement in our sleepers.

The washing accommodations are meagre, the retiring rooms are rarely well kept, and the ventilation of the cars is simply nil. Still, the improvement over the old-time sitting up of necessity is wonderful, and of itself sufficient to attract attention to the modern style of travel.

Men rarely get something in this world for nothing.

The heavy rails, the solid roadbeds, the magnificent mechanisms, and the substantial cars which modern capital, labor and ingenuity combined provide us, so that rapid transit, from here to San Francisco, is a daily occurrence, have to be paid for.

We pay for it in human slaughter.

Precisely how many men, women and children have been run over, killed in collisions, hurled into eternity by reckless speeding, by broken rails, by malignant deviltry, it would be difficult to say; but, as within this closing week there have been 23 casualties, each resulting in the loss of human life, it is an incident worthy of remark in connection with this particular improvement.

Oh, Those "Improvements!"

As in olden times we had nothing of the sort, and consequently no accidents of this character on the railway service, so in olden times we had no elevators, and consequently no such extraordinary incidents in social life as have marked this year of 1891.

Within a week three elevator boys were killed.

One, who was sitting on the top of the cab, unable to control its upward swiftness, was mashed and mangled against the roof. Another was burned to death; another was caught between the flooring of the cab and the capping of the door and slowly but surely killed.

Falling elevators we rarely hear of.

Accidents by them and in them and to them are generally the result of recklessness or carelessness on the part of the boys to whom they are entrusted.

In olden times we had no elevators, consequently we had no accidents of this character.

How about steam heat?

How grandpa would have opened his eyes if, on entering his bedroom or office, he were to see a modern coil of pipe, the key of which being turned instantly rattled and banged and hissed and sissed with the unrolling of voluminous steam, making the apartment in a very short time unbearably hot.

Grandpa used to warm first one side and then the other at his fire of wood or coal, and shiver along until, at the age of 80 or 90, he shuffled off his mortal coil, and joined the great army of the gone before, wherever its bivouac may be.

He Wasn't Choked

by gas from the furnace, he wasn't parched inside by the stifling, unmoistened heat from the fires in the cellar, he wasn't parboiled by escaping steam, nor frightened out of his wits by the bursting of the pipes at night.

We had no steam heat then, consequently no accidents of that nature.

And now electrocution.

I have seen two men broiled to death. The first I think I couldn't forget if I were to live a million years, and be employed in supernatural errands in the service of the great potentialities beyond the skies.

One of 50,000 horrified spectators. I stood and saw, in the attitude of Mercury, with hands extended and legs apart, the figure of a man from whose eyeless sockets flashed fire, from whose fingers sparks flew and sputtered, from whose entire physique rose that indescribable flame of blue, while the atmosphere was tainted with the never-to-be-forgotten odor of burning flesh.

Electricity, marvellous servant! Electricity, merciless master!

Men, animals, property, have been sacrificed before this tremendous energy during the past year to an extent unnecessary to detail.

What of it?

This, that as in the olden time life moved in its own peculiar sluggishness, so incidents of this peculiarly destructive type, such as we find illustrated in railway accidents, in elevator disasters, in unintentional electrocutions, were equally slow and tardy of appearance. Improvements are great blessings when properly manipulated.

They are terrible scourges when given their own free course to do as accident rather than design determines.

Let Us Balance Books.

That is what the merchants, the traders, the capitalists of the earth are doing tonight.

All the great organizations of the world, recognizing the coming of the Christmas morn, to be followed by the death of 1891, and the birth of the year from which so much is hoped, 1892, scan carefully their pages of record, look with minuteness into the very detail of affairs, and spread, for the satisfaction or the dismay, as the case may be, of their shareholders, upon the fair pages of report the doings of the 12 months.

If, in material affairs where money alone is at stake this is deemed desirable, how much more does it seem our duty to survey our individual past, our own peculiar conduct, in order that, as intelligent men of common sense recognition of obligation, we square ourselves with ourselves, thankful if the outcome be profitable and to our credit; truly sorry and penitent if on the other hand it proves profitless and to our disgrace.

This is one of the occasions when selfishness has a right to assert itself.

This is one of the times when every man and woman, regardless of surroundings, in his own secret chamber shall hold the balance with a firm and honorable hand, and study the weight on the one side and the other, and recognize, with no silly-billy desire to palliate, excuse or exaggerate, carefully the preponderance.

There are, however, generalities which we can afford to look at together.

I don't care to have you judge me. I certainly won't judge you.

Each is doubtless his own severest critic. I may have done deeds which you, in your courtesy and charity, would excuse, owing to my peculiar temperament. I may have said, I may have done, I may have held back, I may have neglected, all of which my friends excuse by reason of my condition. So says each one of us: yet in the inside chamber, where sits the never yet deceived judge, the trial must proceed, and I challenge every reader of THE BOSTON GLOBE to answer to himself whether or no he doesn't find himself summoned every now and then before that critic, that scrutinizer, that omniscience, in that secret chamber, where he is compelled to answer nay or yea.

But now for the public.

Is the race in general, and are our own people of the United States, hand in hand with the progresses of material affairs? Have we, as men and women, advanced as obviously as our servants steam, electricity, fire, water, steel, iron, food have in their usefulness to the human race? No sensible man will for an instant deny that, so far as social comforts go, so far as conveniences are concerned, we, of 1891, are infinitely better off than our predecessors of any generation.

But we ourselves, how are we?

Are we better mentally, morally, physically?

It seems to me that rudimentary education is more generally diffused among our people than ever. Our public schools, while open to very severe criticism in some respects, are undeniably advanced.

Sometimes I think

Their Aim is Too High.

That, by the way, is a field for earnest and thoughtful discussion. Are we, as a people, bound to give in our common schools a stratum of education above the old-time recognized stratum? In other words, should the nation at large be asked to furnish, gratuitously, opportunity for culture, as distinguished from education? Many think that if children are taught to read, to write, history, arithmetic, algebra, it is all that should be asked. Others ask that music, Latin in any event, German, French, moral philosophy and astronomy should be included.

To each of these, as a cast-iron rule, very serious objection can be urged, but the field is so broad that it is not worth while to enter it just now.

The photograph shows that, take the country through, it provides better schoolhouses, better mechanisms, better apparatus, better maps, better books than ever.

The teachers are no better, no worse than their predecessors.

You know my idea is that a school teacher occupies the highest possible seat at the table of life.

He it is who takes the boy and the girl at the very threshhold. He it is who bends the twig, he who sows the seed, and I look with ineffable scorn upon the feeble jokes concerning the "school marms," and despise to a degree that words cannot express that class of politician who would pare down the income of a teacher, in order that the salary of a heeler may be fattened up.

As men who have wider fields, in journalism and in the pulpit, ought to be held rigidly to a responsibility keyed up to the topmost notch, so

Teachers Should be Held Responsible

as the ones who literally mould the character of the citizens of the future.

I regret to find in journals of extended circulation a tendency towards the un-American idea of sectarian schools, where, at the public expense, matters with which the public schools have nothing to do they hope to teach.

I want no Episcopal school, no Methodist, no Roman Catholic, no Unitarian, no Presbyterian, no Congregationalist school.

I want the American common school to stand and grow and endure forever. It is the bed rock of patriotism.

It is the solid, substantial foundation of honest manhood.

It is the creditor to whom this great nation owes it majestic status today, and over every schoolhouse should float the one and only flag ever tolerated on a public or an official residence.

The stars and stripes should be familiar to every American eye.

We can have none too much of it, and money expended for a fresh flag every year would be well laid out in every school district of this great land.

Politically we are in a bad way.

It is difficult to discuss politics or religion in any social gathering, yet I doubt if broad-gauged views will meet with any traverse in the mind of any candid reader. Candid readers are all we care for. The others can flop by themselves.

We are in a bad way because politics have become a trade. Citizens of average build and thought and calibre pay no attention to politics. They leave it all to professionals. The consequence is that our tickets are not built in the interest of the public, but

In the Interest of a Party.

I was surprised that Judge Crisp, who is one of the noblest men living, one of the squarest publicists in our land, should have uttered, even in a moment of enthusiasm, the phrase which was printed in every newspaper on the following morning to this effect.

He had been nominated by the Democratic caucus as candidate for speaker of the House of Representatives, and, in thanking his colleagues for the distinguished honor, said, "I pledge all there is in me of ability and of industry to the interest of the Democratic party."

Now he didn't mean that.

He is too big a man, too good a man to intend any such meaning as that. He was overcome with emotion. Great waves of satisfaction rolled in upon him, and upspringing, as it were, from himself, thinking only of the beaming faces about him, all of a common faith, he pledged himself as he did.

As matter of fact he was then on the verge of what was next to the chief honor of the land. Within a few moments there was to be placed in his hand the gavel of authority over the body which makes the laws of 60,000,000 of people.

Judge Crisp devotes and will devote, so long as he is in that place, all there is in him of ability and industry to the best interests of the public at large. But our politics are not in the hands of Judge Crisp nor in the hands of men like him.

They are in the hands of the ward heelers of the district, leaders of the organizations until they come up to the chief organization in each party.

The Republicans are as bad as the Democrats, and the Democrats just as bad as the Republicans. There is no pretense of anything but the attainment of partisan ends, and the public weal can go to the devil.

It is difficult, so long as

The Pulpit is Afraid,

so long as journals are partisan, to teach the boys of the land that it is their duty to look out for the interest of the town, the city, the State, the nation of which they are part and parcel.

And finance?

Well, I suppose 1891 represents the two financial extremes more adequately than any of its predecessors, and less adequately than any of its immediate successors possibly can, and for obvious reasons the rich are growing richer and the poor are growing poorer every day.

There are more people wandering about our streets today homeless, foodless, penniless, than ever. There are more millionnaires here today than ever. We have men whose fortunes, conservatively estimated, rank above a hundred millions of dollars.

To save their lives they cannot spend the certain income.

Year after year it rolls up and rolls up until the little rising has become a hill, the hill a mountain, and the mountain stands solid, stern, frowning, unsympathetic, getting heavier and heavier as the years roll on, until—

Until what?

Well, I can imagine the crust breaking and the mountain tumbling down, falling through. Something must happen.

It cannot go on this way forever.

We are in a very bad way financially when the community at large is not prosperous, when the State no longer represents a Commonwealth.

Did you ever think of the grandeur of that term?

I believe Massachusetts to be the one State which is always spoken of as "the Commonwealth." "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts," what an eye-filling, ear-filling, mouth-filling, heart-filling sentence that is.

Rotund, sonorous, majestic, forceful, self-asserting, majesterial, all protecting, does it not seem so to you who live there and you beyond its borders who are proud of the

Leadership of the Old Bay State?

The Commonwealth means the average; and what is the average? You have millionnaires and beggars, you have capitalists and slaves, you have men of marvellous success and men who don't know tonight where tomorrow morning's breakfast is to come from.

Is it so?

Answer not to me, not to your neighbor, but way inside of yourself. If you are a millionnaire you know it. If you are a poor devil who picks THE GLOBE up in a street car you know it. If you are between these two great extremes, answer truly, are you envious of the one, do you care a rap for the other?

Are you yourself financially comfortable, and can you be so when, on the one hand you are shaded from the life-giving sun of prosperity by this tremendous mountain between you and it, and on the other you see your neighbor in the very depth of the pit of despair, crying and imploring and begging you to share your little with him.

So that socially we are wrong.

Oh, the picture that this great city presents socially! Would that I had the tongue of an angel with which to tell it, or the pencil of a Raphael with which to show it, or the hand of Omnipotence with which to change it.

Some day, some day, he whose right it is to reign will come, and the mountains will be levelled, and the depths will be brought high, and there will be one common plain of industry intelligently directed, happily prosperous, and the era of a common wealth will be inaugurated not only, but will last, until the millennial trump shall sound its final summons.

WENT WEST WHEN YOUNG.

Death of Ex-Gov. A. P. K. Safford of Florida.

TARPON SPRINGS, Fla., Dec. 16.—Ex-Gov. A. P. K. Safford died at his home here yesterday, after an illness of over a year.

Gov. Safford was born in Vermont in February, 1830; emigrated with his parents to Illinois when but 8 years old, and in 1850 he moved to California. He was a member of the California Legislature for two sessions, 1866 and 1868. Later he went to Nevada, where he held the office of surveyor-general for two years, and was appointed territorial governor of Arizona in 1869. He served as governor eight years.

He came here about eight years ago, and through his own efforts, chiefly, built up the town of Tarpon Springs, where he made his home.

DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES.

A Government Witness Shot by Supposed Moonshiners.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 19.—Lafayette Anderson, a farmer and an important witness in several illicit distillery cases, was assassinated last night at his home in Edwardsville, Claburne county.

He was at supper with his family, when a double-barrelled shotgun, in the hands of an unknown person, was thrust through the window and two charges of buckshot were fired into his head, killing him instantly. His brains were scattered over the table, and the plate out of which he had been eating was filled with his blood.

His wife and children went into convulsions and the alarm was not given for some time.

Veteran of Three Wars Dead.

Gen. Patrick Edward Connor, veteran of the Florida and Mexican wars and of the war of the rebellion, died at Salt Lake City, Thursday evening. He was born in Ireland on the 17th of March, 1820, came to this country when a boy, and at the age of 19 entered the United States army, serving in the Florida war. After his discharge he settled in Texas, and when the Mexican war broke out he was mustered in as a captain of volunteers in the regiment of Albert Sidney Johnston, and fought at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Buena Vista, where he was wounded severely. Then he migrated to California, where, in 1861, he raised a regiment of volunteers, and was ordered to Utah to prevent a revolt of the Mormons and to punish marauding Indians. In January, 1863, after a forced march of 140 miles in deep snow, during which 76 of his 200 men were frost-bitten, he surprised a band of 300 warriors in a fortified camp on Bear river, and after a desperate fight annihilated them. He was commissioned brigadier-general, and for a long time remained in the command of the Utah District. At the close of the war he received the brevet of major-general, and was appointed to the District of the Plains. In 1865 he organized a force of 2000 cavalry to chastise the Sioux and Arapahoes, inflicting severe punishment on them at Tongue river. The following year he was mustered out of the service and settled in Utah, where he set to work to strengthen the Gentile community. He established Camp Douglas, founded the Union Vidette, the first daily newspaper printed in the Territory, opened the first silver mine in Utah, wrote the first mining law, introduced navigation on Great Salt Lake, built the first silver-lead smelting works and the first city of Stockton. In consequence of his many commercial, financial and mining interests, he declined the offer of a colonelcy in the regular army at the close of the rebellion.

Chinese Girl Traffic in Victoria, B. C.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 16.—The authorities of Victoria have discovered in that city regular slave shambles, where the Chinamen buy women as they would buy tea.

An investigation has just revealed the career of six Chinese girls, who arrived by the Empress of China about the middle of October.

Immediately upon the arrival of the steamer they disposed of the two oldest for $1400 and $1500 respectively; but they bound the four younger ones to Lin You, a famous procuress, with instructions to wait for a better market.

On Monday last she sold them for $1410, $1410, $885 and $770, respectively, cash being paid down.

Lin You, when frightened by the questions put to her, finally confessed everything regarding the sale, and added that the Empress of India would bring more girls for the same purpose.

Amazing Intellect!

A.—Our doctor lately had a brilliant idea that brought him in a pot of money.

B.—You don't say so! What was it?

A.—Well, he married an heiress.

Big Money for Agents.

A $50 appointment on 30 days' time, guarantee $150 profit in four weeks or no pay. Free sample for stamp. Address A. B. SHOOP & Co., Racine, Wis.

NEW ENGLAND NEWS.

Eighty-Fourth Anniversary of John G. Whittier's Birth.

Maine and New Hampshire Granges—Some Serious Fires.

Brakeman's Life Valued at $6500—Brief Notes.

America's uncrowned poet laureate was 84 years old on Thursday. For the last few years John G. Whittier has not lived at Amesbury all the time. Instead, he spends a part of the time in the place which has been his home for 51 years, and passes the remainder with those loving relatives and friends who are only too glad to welcome him to their homes. Last year his birthday came while he was at Oak Knoll in Danvers. This year it was celebrated during his stop at the home of Harriet Livermore, the school mistress of "Snow Bound," which is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cartland, with whom he has passed nearly three-fourths of the past year in Newburyport and at the mountains.

Mr. Whittier is an early riser, and Thursday morning he came down to breakfast at the usual time, declaring that he felt better than usual, although he was a little afraid that he might not be able to stand the fatigue of the occasion.

Shortly after 9 o'clock several carriages drove up to the house, and a party of 57 persons from Haverhill entered. These were the members of the Whittier Club of that city, who came to extend their congratulations to the poet whose works they took such delight in studying. Although Mr. Whittier has not for some time been able to stand large birthday receptions, as in the earlier years of his life, he was glad to meet this organization, coming, as it did, from his old home, and the brief reception was carried through as arranged for several days ago. When the party had entered and wraps were removed, George C. Howe, the president of the club, stepped forward and in a few well-chosen words extended the greetings of the club to the poet and their congratulations on his 84th birthday. Mr. Whittier was deeply moved by the pleasant words thus spoken, and he responded briefly, expressing his own gratitude at their presence and his joy that it was not true that a "prophet was not without honor save in his own country."

There was one unusually interesting feature in the morning's reception and that was a reunion of old schoolmates. With the party, which left Haverhill in a special car at 8.15 a. m., came three gray-headed persons who had been to school with Mr. Whittier in the picturesque old schoolhouse at East Haverhill. These were Hon. James H. Carleton of Haverhill, Mrs. Warren Ordway, nee Caroline Foote of Bradford, and Thomas B. Garland of Dover, N. H.

An extremely pretty floral gift was that which was brought by the club. It consisted of eighty-four superb pink roses, one for each year of the poet's life, tied with a broad pink ribbon, upon each end of which was a beautiful painting in water colors, done by a member of the club.

Many of Haverhill's prominent people were present in the gathering in Mr. Cartland's parlors.

It seemed as if there was a regular procession of messengers coming to the door with bouquets from thoughtful friends and despatches containing words of congratulation from those at a distance. The gifts which had already arrived were arranged upon the tables in the parlors. Particularly noticeable was the gift of E. Clarence Stedman, the poet, which was a beautiful painting, pressing "High Tide at Hampton Meadows," the work of Carroll B. Brown. In another room was a wicker stand heavily laden with the choicest fruit, the gift of Charles F. Coffin of Lynn, who always remembers Mr. Whittier upon his birthdays with tokens of this nature.

A unique souvenir was that sent by the teachers and pupils of the public schools in West Point, Calaveras county, Cal. It consists of a ruler made up of 12 different kinds of wood, native to California, arranged together in a most artistic manner. Accompanying was a letter from the teachers, E. M. Price and Miss M. Lawson, assuring Mr. Whittier of their interest in him, and adding that the pupils were to celebrate his birthday by holding a special meeting, at which many of his favorite poems would be read and recited.

Mr. Whittier bore the reception of the morning particularly well and after a short rest he was ready to greet the friends who called later to congratulate him upon his anniversary. He seemed unusually active for a man so old and all the friends who held conversation affirmed that he could talk with greater ease than was expected. Mr. Whittier is holding his strength in a remarkable manner, and he takes the utmost care of himself. His great fear is of pneumonia and he takes great pains not to be exposed to the cold of the winter.

FOX SEEKS SANCTUARY,

But Dogs Follow It Into Church, and Break Up Prayer Meeting.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 14.—Deep-toned bays of a hound from afar off on the hills broke the stillness of the night in the Gundy school district, in the town of Lime, last Friday.

For some time past there has been a revival of religion working among the people thereabouts, and the meeting in the school building was of nightly occurrence.

Friday night the attendance was unusually large and the interest was it possible more intense. Just as it reached the top notch something happened that drove all thoughts of thanksgiving and praise from the minds of those present and the meeting broke up in confusion.

Scripture reading opened the meeting, and then there was a service of song. One after another hymns were called for, and nearly half an hour was ticked away by the old-fashioned clock on the wall before the last tune was suug.

Meanwhile, unnoticed by the devout worshippers, the baying of the hound became more distinct, and as Deacon Gillette rose and said: "Let us pray," the half dozen young people in the building were equally divided in their attention to him and to the sounds of the exciting chase outside which was rapidly nearing the building.

Together with nearly all the others present Deacon Gillette knelt down.

Every one was all attention to the fervent supplication of the good deacon, and there were frequent interjections of "Praise God" and other responses, punctuated with the sharp yelps of the dog.

Finally there was a deep-mouthed bay beneath the window in front of which Deacon Gillette was on his knees, and a moment later there was a crash of glass and something came through the window, landing squarely in front of the deacon.

The fox, for such it was, slipped between the seats and took refuge behind the stove in the corner of the room.

The sport was too rude, and what was an orderly prayer meeting was instantly transformed into a scene of wild confusion.

Deacon Gillette, who had scarcely recovered his senses, started for the door in an unceremonious fashion, and in making his escape fell his length over Sister Maria Hedges. She screamed, and the other females of the congregation who had found their voices did likewise. Some of them mounted seats and kept on screaming, while the male portion of the audience awaited developments.

They hadn't long to wait, for soon the hound with a loud bay bounded through the window, carrying away more glass, the smashing of which on the floor added to the tumult.

Pandemonium reigned, for the dog stuck to the trail and drove the fox from his cover. Round the room it and the dog scurried, over chairs, under desks, now blindly running into terrified women who held their skirts close about them, and between legs of men who waited for the chase to end.

Finally Orin Oakes, the owner of the hound, who was present, joined in the chase. Between him and the dog the fox was cornered, and after a fierce fight the dog killed it, the wailing of the women adding to the din.

Some of the latter had already made their escape from the schoolroom. They were quickly joined by the others and their escorts, and the prayer meeting was over.

Brother Oakes complacently slung Mr. Fox over his shoulder and carried him home, the hound following behind with a thoroughly satisfied air.

The dramatic event has been the talk of the town and neighboring sections since its occurrence, and promises to be for a long time to come.

NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANGE.

Annual Meeting and Notes of the Order's Progress.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 14.—The 18th annual session of the New Hampshire State Grange, an organization which today rivals Odd Fellowship in membership in the old Granite State, convenes here tomorrow in City Hall for a four days' session.

It appears from the figures in the hands of Secretary Batchelder that with the close of the last quarter, Sept. 30, there were 130 subordinate granges in the State, against 125 one year ago, and two have been organized since Sept. 30, making the total number 132, a gain of seven during the past year, and during the same time none of the subordinate granges have surrendered their charters.

The total membership Sept. 30 was 9370, a net increase during the year of 1022, which is the largest growth in a single year since the institution of the order in New Hampshire, with the single exception of 1890. The increase in membership since Sept. 30 warrants the statement that the total membership in the State at date exceeds 10,000.

Amoskeag Grange of Manchester leads in membership with 265 names on its roll, and is closely followed by Pembroke of Pembroke with 237, and Grafton Star of Hanover with 203.

There are 23 other granges, with a membership exceeding 100 each, and 72 granges report a membership between 50 and 100.

There are nine Pomona granges at present, two having been organized since the last meeting, one in Carroll, and one in Sullivan county.

The total membership of the Pomona granges, Sept. 30, was 1895, a net gain during the year of 420, and the initiations since Sept. 30 insure a total membership at the present time of over 2000.

The cash receipts from fees and dues for the year aggregated $3462.85, a net gain of $373.93, and every grange is square on the books of the State grange. The receipts for the year, including cash on hand, have amounted to $6629.67, against $5579.12 for the preceding 12 months. The expenditures for the year amounted to $2808.42, against $2642.46 in 1890.

The largest increase in the membership made by a single grange was by Amoskeag, which shows a gain of 64. The largest percentage of gain in membership was by Honor Bright Grange of Sullivan, which, in a town having a total population of but 360, has attained to a membership of 64, a gain during the year of 33.

The wonderful growth of the grange movement in New Hampshire is shown by the fact that in 1883 there were but 64 granges, with a membership of 3443, while now there are 132, with a membership exceeding 10,000. The position of master is a most important and desirable place of honor, and has been held by the present incumbent four years.

Among those in attendance tonight are Col. W. H. Stinson of Mt. Vernon, statistical agent of the government, who is past master of the State grange, and Col. J. E. Pecker of Concord.

Value os a Brakeman's Life.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec, 16.—A jury in the Court of Common Pleas has fixed the price of a brakeman's life at $6500.

It is the first instance on record in the Rhode Island courts where damages have been allowed in such an instance, and the railway corporation counsel are feeling very much exercised over the verdict.

William R. Graves, Jr., a bright young fellow, not over 23, went on the New York, Providence and Boston road on a freight train as brakeman.

He was inexperienced, but had high hopes of being elevated to a more important position in the service.

In January last, during a wild day, he was breaking on the Providence & Worcester division at Manville, near Woonsocket.

It was on a down grade, and through some unknown cause the train broke in two, causing Graves to be tumbled between the two sections of the train.

George H. Burns, as the administrator, began action against the company for $20,000, and vigorously fought the case, though at various intervals the attempt was made to non-suit the plaintiff.

Baker's Big Hotel Burned.

Saturday morning Hotel Wellesley, Needham, was discovered to be on fire. The Natick fire department arrived at the hotel just as the fire was discovered by the inmates of the house, James Geary and family, who were occupying the east wing—the blaze being at the other end of the building. In spite of all their efforts the building, which was an enormous wooden structure, was burned to the ground, with all its contents. The stable was saved through the efforts of the firemen, although it caught fire several times. Loss about $100,000.

The house was a summer hotel, and upon Oct. 15 it was closed to the public for the winter. As for 14 years, Geary, the farmer and superintendent of the estate, stayed in the building.

Notes.

The State board of agriculture held a meeting at New Britain, Tuesday; Gov. Bulkeley presided. Chairman Camp made an address of welcome. J. H. Hale of Glastonbury read a paper on "Fruit in Connecticut," which was discussed.

The court-martial proceedings against Capt. Bart N. Wilson of the Manchester, N. H., City Guards, was begun Tuesday, the remarkable spectacle being presented of a police officer under military arrest. To the formal charges of falsifying pay-rolls at the annual encampment at Concord and inspection at Manchester this year, in entering upon them the names of men who were not present, and collecting pay therefor to the extent of over $100, Capt. Wilson pleaded guilty. The findings of the court were not promulgated.

The 20th anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. John N. Chase in the Baptist church of Exeter, N. H., was celebrated Saturday. Mr. Chase enjoys the distinction of being the oldest settled Baptist minister in point of service in the State.

The creamery at Monterey, Mass., owned by a stock company and making 150 pounds of butter a day at this season and 600 pounds in summer, took fire in the boiler room Friday morning, and was burned to the ground. The loss was $2500; insured for $1000. The creamery will soon be rebuilt.

The handsome and substantial new town house erected by vote of the town of Lynnfield, Mass., is so nearly completed that its dedication has been assigned for Tuesday, Dec. 29. The building is a modern Gothic structure, two stories in height and 40x60 feet in exterior dimensions, costing $8000.

Ship Roanoke, now being built by E. & A. Sewall at Bath, Me., will probably be the largest sailing ship in the world. She will be built on the same lines as the Shenandoah, now the largest ship owned in the United States, but will be 11 feet longer. Like the Shenandoah, she will carry four masts. The dimensions are: Length on the keel, 300 feet 1 inch; registered length over all, 312 feet; beam 49 feet; depth, between centres, 29 feet. She will exceed the 3406 tons of the Shenandoah, and quite likely will prove to be larger than the famous bark France, of 3624 tons, now the largest sailing vessel in the world.

Negotiations have been completed for the sale of the new pulp mill of the Orono Pulp and Paper Company at Orono, Me., to a syndicate formed by Benjamin Hosford of Boston, at a price not far from $275,000. The new owners propose to build at once a two-machine paper mill. As the present plant is a sulphite mill and there are ground wood plants on the river, there will be good raw material at their disposal.

Rev. Harry Brickett of Hooksett, N. H., who died Thursday, was born in Newbury, Vt., Feb. 1, 1818. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1840. He was at one time employed as lecturer and instructor in teachers' institutes in New Hampshire and Maine.

Gov. Burleigh has appointed Charles A. Rolfe of Princeton agent of the Passamaquoddy tribe of Indians, with the intention that Mr. Gove of Perry shall act as subagent for the Indians at Pleasant Point.

At a session of the Governor and Council of Maine, Thursday, Hon. J. W. Wakefield of Bath appeared in opposition to the confirmation of Judge Nathan Coombs as municipal judge of Bath. The council, however, confirmed the renomination.

Henry E. Capen of the Bay View House, Camden, Me., and a Moosehead lake guide named Templeton, a few mornings ago started from their camp near the iron works after big game, having struck a fresh trail. They had climbed a high mountain, darkness had come on and snow commenced to fall. The day before Mr. Capen had found a small biscuit in a deserted camp, and this was all the food the two men had for the two days they were wandering in the woods. Nearly fell with hunger, the nearly exhausted men did not dare to sleep, and the frightful howling of the tempest was enough to keep them awake. In this terrible situation they passed the time until daylight. They suffered intensely from cold and hunger, and the whole of the next day was occupied in trying to find their camp. Finally a party of friends discovered them.

Rev. Frederick Hinckley, a well-known clergyman, pastor of the Unitarian church at Barnstable, Mass., died Friday at the age of 71 years. He was born in Boston and began preaching about 50 years ago, his first charge being in Windsor, Vt.

Farmers were ploughing in Aroostook, Me., last week. How is that for a northern climate? asks the Times.

The Moosehead Lake steamers have about all been hauled up for the winter after a profitable season. Connections will be kept up with Kineo until the lake freezes, one or more steamers making regular trips.

The potato shipments per week from upper Aroostook averaged 10 times as much in bulk last year as this, and 20 times as much in cents more than 10 times as much. The farmers are blue in the prospect of not realizing much out of the crop of this season.

The first carload of buckwheat which was ever shipped from Aroostook county to the outside market left Caribou for Boston last week. There were 15 tons in the car. This flour is made by the roller process, and is pronounced by good judges to be of a very superior quality.

Immigration and the World's fair proved two very entertaining topics at the first annual dinner of the Massachusetts State board of trade at the Revere House, Boston, Friday, when 250 business men from all parts of the State attended the dinner, which also drew Assistant Secretary of the Treasury A. B. Nettleton from Washington, Hon. Benjamin Butterworth and F. W. Peck from their duties in connection with the World's fair at Chicago, and Hon. E. J. MacDermott from Louisville.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Michael Davitt's Campaign in City of Waterford.

Bulgaria's Trouble with France—Booth's Scheme for Darkest London.

Parnellite Paper Gives Views on Home Rule—Notes.

DUBLIN, Dec. 16.—It would now seem that Mr. Michael Davitt's candidacy for Waterford will be seriously hampered by his peculiar theories regarding land. His views on the labor question are also more or less criticised by his Irish friends, who never looked with favor upon his unsuccessful experiment of editing a labor organ in London. As to his scheme for the regulation of land, the Dublin Express is of the opinion that the Irish farmers who are now practically land owners will not tolerate them for a moment.

It is added that there are grave doubts whether even if elected Mr. Davitt could take his seat, being in the eyes of the law a convicted felon who has not served out the term of imprisonment for which he was sentenced. However this may be, the election will be an interesting test of the vitality of Parnellism.

The Northern Whig of Belfast joins in the chorus of comment by declaring that Mr. Chamberlain doubtless was right when he said that the people of Ulster were fully determined not to accept a home rule bill saddled with the provision of an Irish Parliament in Dublin, and could only be compelled to submit to such a measure by force. Indeed, the passage of such a measure would, as far as Ulster is concerned, be the signal for a civil war.

FRANCE AND BULGARIA.

The Latter Refuses to Apologize for Expelling a Journalist.

PARIS, Dec. 16.—The refusal of the Bulgarian government to grant France the satisfaction the latter country demands for the expulsion of M. Chadonnine, a French journalist, from Bulgaria continues to be the most exciting topic of conversation in diplomatic circles. The gravity of the step taken by the French government in severing diplomatic relations with Bulgaria is acknowledged by all intelligent persons, and nobody versed in the delicate questions involved in Balkan diplomacy denies that this incident forms a spark dangerous enough to light the torch of war in Europe.

The Cologne Gazette says that the French consulate (where M. Chadonnine was employed as a clerk, and from which place he sent the journalistic utterances complained of) was really a centre and a screen for all intrigues adverse to Bulgarian interests. The Cologne Gazette adds that it would be to the advantage of Bulgaria that the "detestable underground work" should cease with the diplomatic representation of France.

The gravity of the incident is not in the expulsion of M. Chadonnine from Bulgaria, but in the fact that a great power like France has thought this action important enough to cause her to assume a most serious attitude toward that little power. France, it may be said, has not taken the step referred to without consultation with Russia: hence the real danger.

Gen. Booth's Scheme on Trial.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The report of the first year's workings of Gen. Booth's "In Darkest England" scheme shows that during that time £25,000 has been expended on the over-sea colony. Nearly £40,000 has been absorbed in the purchasing and leasing of land for city refuges and workshops. The sum of £41,000 has been expended on the farm colony. The food and shelter depots have been self-supporting. There has been a small deficiency in the anti-sweating workshops. The match factory has given profits of £475 in four months. The knitting factory and bookbindery have each earned profits. The operations of the farm show a loss of £116.

It cost £335 to establish the labor bureau, but it has been a great success. There have been 15,000 applicants during the year. There have been registered 2,381,148 cheap meals, of which 1,097,866 were halfpenny dinners; 96,555 farthing dinners, and 25,000 free meals. Three hundred and seven thousand cheap lodgings were furnished at fourpence and twopence per night.

The work produced by the refugees in the labor factories realized £15,191; 200 ex-criminals were reformed, and 445,170 visits were made to families in the slums. The number of the sick attended by the officers working in the slums amounted to 10,904.

CHILI IS "SATISFIED."

People Content with Government's Answer to United States.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—A despatch to the Times from its correspondent at Santiago de Chili states that the publication of the correspondence which has passed between the governments of Chili and the United States in relation to the assault upon sailors from the American man-of-war Baltimore has been completed.

The despatch adds that the public is apparently satisfied with the course pursued by Chili.

Everything is quiet throughout the country.

STILL TALKING WAR.

London Sees a Conflict Ahead Between Uncle Sam and Chili.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Advices from Chili are awaited with great anxiety by people having interests there, and the prevalent impression is that war cannot be avoided.

It is known that work on the Capt. Prat, the formidable armorclad built in France for the Chilian government, is being hurried to completion, and that the vessel will be ready for sea at an earlier date than originally intended. There is a rumor that the Chilians are negotiating for ironclads already constructed and for one vessel, possibly intended for use as a cruiser against American commerce.

The Chilians here continue to express themselves as confident of a favorable result of a war with the United States, and they intimate that they can depend upon indirect support from Europe in carrying on the war.

A Berlin despatch states that a quiet effort is being made to procure German officers and seam